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HISTORY OF CHURCH BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE:

CHIEFLY FROM ORIGINAL AND CONTEMPORANEOUS RECORDS.

BY THOMAS NORTH, F.S.A.,

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PREFACE.

Having already, in a Paper read at the Lincoln (1880) Congress of the Royal Archæological Institute, explained the circumstances under which the labour of collecting material for the following pages was commenced, I need not repeat them here.

It is, however, due to the Rev. J. T. Fowler, F.S.A., to again say that without the inducement held out to me by him, in the placing at my disposal his valuable collection of notes, sketches and casts, I should, probably, not have attempted a work involving so much labour, and calling for so much patience and perseverance.

During the prosecution of my enquiries I had no reason to regret my decision to do my best to complete what Mr. Fowler began, and so to place on record as full an account as possible of the Campanology of Lincolnshire, the interest of which is becoming every year less, as the ancient bells gradually, from various causes, disappear.

For I have received from very many of the clergy and laity of the County information often obtained with much difficulty, and, I may add from all to whom I applied—where nothing more was, or could be given,—uniform courtesy.

My thanks are due, and are heartily tendered to the Rev. J. T. Fowler, F.S.A., and to Mr. Jerram for placing their collections, illustrative of the Lincolnshire Bells, at my disposal; to J. J. Creswell, Esq., and again to the Rev. J. T. Fowler, F.S.A., and through him to some unknown friends, for very careful and exact drawings of many Bellfounders' stamps to illustrate this volume; to J. R. Daniel Tyssen, Esq., F.S.A., W. Amherst Tyssen Amherst, Esq., M.P., F.S.A., and to Ll. Jewitt, Esq., F.S.A., for the use of wood blocks; to the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln for permission to make extracts from their muniments, and to the Rev. Canon Wickenden for very courteously and efficiently making searches for me, and for directing and superintending the transcriber employed; to W. P. W. Phillimore, Esq., for help most kindly given in the Public Record Office, London, (where Mr. Vincent rendered me careful and valuable professional services); to the Rev. W. G. Dimock Fletcher, for (as on former occasions) kindly searching, and making extracts, for me in the Bodleian Library, Oxford; to Mr. Justin Simpson for giving much time amongst, and making extracts from, the Records belonging to the different Parishes, and to the Municipality, of Stamford; and to the Rev. Reginald H. C. Fitz-Herbert, W. H. Jones, Esq., and other gentlemen, who made long journies, and spent many hours amongst dusty and musty Parish Papers, preserved in Church chests, in searching—sometimes with the most meagre result to cheer them—for information about the bells hanging over their heads.

And, whilst I append to this Preface a list of the ladies and gentlemen to whom I am specially indebted, and to whom I here specially offer my thanks, for Rubbings or Casts taken from the bells of the parishes placed opposite to their names, I beg all others who have aided me in a variety of ways, by procuring measurements of their bells, sending me notes on their "Uses," hunting up Traditions, searching the Registers and other Records of their parishes, &c., &c., to accept my best thanks for their valuable assistance so freely and ungrudgingly given.

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Jerram, Mr.	Baston, Bicker, Bolingbroke, Boston, Butterwick, Clixby, Cowbit, Croft, Croyland, Dawsmere, Deeping (S. James), Deeping Fen, Fleet, Fosdyke, Gedney, Gedney Hill, Gosberton, Hacconby, Holbeach (All Saints and S. John), Holbeach Hurn, Holbeach Fen (Mission), Huttoft, Miningsby, Moulton, Moulton Chapel, Pinchbeck East, Quadring, Saxby, Skirbeck, Spalding, Stainton-by-Langworth, Surfleet, Sutterton, Sutton Long, Sutton (S. Nicolas, S. James, S. Matthew), Tydd (S. Mary), Wainfleet (All Saints), Welton-le-Marsh, Wigtoft, Wrangle, Wyberton.
Jones, W. H., Esq.	Barholm, Bassingthorpe, Bitchfield, Boothby Pagnell, Bourn, Braceborough, Burton Coggles, Bytham Castle, Careby, Carlby,

Jones, W. H., Esq.—*Continued.*	Colsterworth, Corby, Deeping Market, Deeping West, Gunby, Irnham, Ponton Great, Skillington, Stainby, Stamford (All Saints, S. George, S. John Baptist, S. Mary, S. Michael, Roman Catholic Chapel, Cemetery Chapel), Swayfield, Swinstead, Tallington, Thurlby, (near Bourn), Uffington, Whaplode Drove, Witham North, Witham-on-the-Hill.
Jones, Rev. W. P...	Clee, Cleethorpes.
Jones, Rev. J. G.	Somerby, near Brigg.
Keightley, Rev. G. J.	Dunsby.
Kirk, Herbert, Esq. [see Messrs. Bell, Kirk, and Snow.]	
Lane, Rev. G. P.	Stowe.
Lawrence, Rev. Percival	Walesby.
Lewin, Rev. Samuel	Tealby.
Llewellyn, Rev. P.	Lincoln (S. Mary Magdalen).
Lloyd, Rev. C. A.	Goltho.
Lodge, Rev. Canon S.	Scrivelsby.
Loft, Rev. James E. W.	Healing.
Lutt, Rev. E. K.	Harmston.
Lynde, Rev. T. G.	Harpswell, Hemswell.
Mackay, Rev. S. M.	Langton-by-Wragby.
Mackdonald, Rev. Grant W.	Holbeach Marsh.
Mackean, Rev. W. S.	Buslingthorpe.
Maclean, Rev. Canon	Kelsey North.
Mantell, Very Rev. Dean	Gretford, Wilsthorpe.
Mason, Rev. W. W.	Leverton.
Massingberd, Rev. W. O.	Ormsby South.
Melville, Rev. F. A. L.	Welbourn.
Moore, Rev. Canon, R.D.	Spalding (S. John Baptist, S. Peter, and S. Paul).
Moore, Rev. H. Dodwell, R.D.	Honington.
Morgan, Rev. John	Humberstone.
Mossman, Rev. T. W.	Torrington (East and West).
Mowbray, Rev. J. H. M. De	Barnetby-le-Wold, Caistor, Claxby.

NASH, Rev. W.	Somerby.
Nelson, Rev. Canon	Lincoln (S. Peter-at-Arches).
Nottingham, Right Reverend Bishop of ..	Leasingham.
OVERTON, Rev. Canon..	Legbourne.
PEACOCK, Rev. J.	Fulbeck.
Peacock, Rev. W. G.	Ulceby-cum-Fordington.
Penny, Rev. J.	Cuxwold.
Potter, Rev. C. A...	Asgardby, Bucknall, Hagworthingham, Thimbleby, Wispington, Woodhall.
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Quirk, Rev. J. F.	Grasby.
RABBETTS, Rev. J. D.	Stoke (North and South), Witham South, Wyvill.
Raven, Rev. J. J., D.D.	Addlethorpe, Algarkirk, Boston, Fishtoft, Frampton, Frieston, Horkestow, Kirton-in-Holland, Ponton Little, Sibsey, Weston (S. Mary), Whaplode.
Rawnsley, A. E., Esq. (the late) ..	Ashby-by-Partney, Benniworth, Donington-on-Bain, Friskney, Halton Holgate, Haugham, Hundleby, Keal (East and West), Partney, Raithby-by-Louth, Raithby-by-Spilsby, Spilsby, Stenigot, Tathwell, Toynton (All Saints), Withcall.
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SAMMONS, Rev. R. T.	Wroot.
Scrivenor, Rev. A.	Horncastle.
Sharp, Rev. J. P.	Edenham.
Sharp, Rev. W.	Mareham-le-Fen.
Shelley, Rev. J. B.	Theddlethorpe (S. Helen).
Sladen, Rev. Ed.	Theddlethorpe (All Saints).
Smith, Rev. Francis	Moorby.
Snow, Rev. Benjamin, [see Messrs. Bell, Kirk, and Snow.]	

Southwell, Rev. H. G.	Rothwell.
Stanley, Rev. Richard	Apley, Barlings.
Stockdale, Rev. Walter	Morton.
Streathfeild, Rev. G. S.	Louth (Holy Trinity).
Sutton, Rev. F. H.	Brant Broughton.
Swallow, Rev. H. J.	Biscathorpe, Burgh-on-Bain, Leake, Sixhills, Willingham North.
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TAYLOR, Rev. T. W. V.	Sixhills.
Taylor, Messrs.	Carlton Magna.
Turner, Rev. W. V.	Bardney.
Tweed, Rev. H. E.	Coleby.
Tyrrell, Rev. Walter	Asterby, Calkwell, Goulceby, Hainton, Stainton Market.
USHER, Rev. W. N.	Cammeringham, Coates, Saxilby (S. Andrew), Stow, Sturton-by-Stow.
Ussher, Richard, Esq.	Allington (East and West), Beckingham, Bennington Long, Boothby Graffoe, Claypole, Doddington Dry, Eagle, Fenton, Hougham, Norton Disney, Potterhanworth, Scarle North, Skellingthorpe, Snelland, Stragglethorpe, Swinderby, Thorpe-on-the-Hill, Thurlby near Newark, Waddington, Westborough.
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Walter, Rev. J. C.	Kirkstead, Langton (S. Andrew).
Ward, Rev. J.	Stickney.
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Warren, Rev. C.	Aylesby, Bradley, New Clee, Laceby.
Watkins, Rev. G. E.	Billingborough, Coates Great, Folkingham, Newton, Osbournby, Pickworth, Threckingham, Walcot.
Watney, Rev. James	Canwick.
Westbrooke, Rev. W. F. W.	Corringham.
Wheat, Rev. C. G.	Martin, Timberland.
White, Rev. D. J.	West Butterwick.

Wilkinson, Rev. C. A.	Willingham South.
Willan, Rev. F. M.	Aubourn.
Wilson, Rev. P. S.	Horbling.
Wilson, Rev. A. C.	Nocton.
Windle, Rev. Allen	Rasen Market.
Winn, Mr. Henry	Ashby Puerorum, Ashby West, Belshford, Enderby Bag, Fulletby, Greetham, Hammeringham, Salmonby, Somersby, Tetford, Toynton Low, Winceby.
Wood, James, Esq.	Louth.
Worsley, Rev. P. R.	Stubton.
Wright, Rev. Canon	Coningsby.
Wylde, Rev. Robert	Enderby Mavis.

T. N.

LLANFAIRFECHAN.
NORTH WALES.

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CHURCH BELLS.

BELLS do not appear to have been introduced into the Christian Church until the fifth century. Prior to that date the Early Christians, so soon as they were able to meet publicly without fear, used, like the Jews of old,* trumpets as a summons to prayer and praise. S. Ephrem (*circa* A.D. 370) further mentions the *Signum*—a clapper or tablet—as the call then used to Holy Communion.† The earliest Christian writer who refers to bells is thought to be Saint Jerome, who in the *Regula Monachorum* (*circa* A.D. 422) mentions their use as a call to matins, &c.‡ Paulinus, bishop of Nola, in Campania (A.D. 400), has been generally credited with their invention,§ but inasmuch as there is extant an epistle from him to Severus, in which he minutely describes his church, but makes no mention of either tower or bells, we must consider he was ignorant, at least at that

* Bingham's *Antiq.*, Bk. viii., c. 7.

† *Paræsnesi* xliii. The late Rev. Mackenzie E. C. Walcott, F.S.A., to whom I was indebted for this reference, so interpreted the "sign."

‡ Quoted by *Rocca, De Campanis.* Opera. Romæ, 1719. Vol. i. p. 156.

§ Dupin's *Eccl. Hist. Ninth Cent.*, p. 166.

time, of their use,* From this tradition, however, we have the mediæval Latin name, *Nola*, for a small hand-bell, and *Campana* for the larger bell hanging in the church tower or turret. Church Bells are also called *Signa* in mediæval documents.

It is not proposed—as being foreign to this work—to attempt a description of the *Nola* or *Tintinnabulum*, as the early portable hand-bell was called. Several of these, of great antiquity, are still extant in Ireland, North Wales, and Scotland. Some of them are very elaborately ornamented, and are accompanied by covers of exquisite workmanship. They are frequently formed of a sheet of metal hammered into shape, and rivetted at the side. There does not appear to be any clue as to the precise original use of these curious bells, which in many instances were, until recently, held in high reverence, and even in superstitious dread, by the ignorant peasantry. Some antiquaries think they are relics of the early founders of Christianity in these Islands, and have been, as such, carefully preserved in Religious Houses founded at the time by the saints themselves.†

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* *The Bell*, by Rev. Alfred Gatty, p. 13. The Rev. H. T. Ellacombe in his *Bells of the Church*, p. 338, gives an engraving of an ancient bell "supposed to have been invented or adopted by Paulinus, *circa* 420, for church purposes."

† A very full and profusely illustrated account of these bells will be found in *The Bells of the Church*, a *Tome* lately put forth by my venerable friend The Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, F.S.A. In the year 1833 Dr. Petrie read before the Royal Irish Academy an Essay on the Ancient Consecrated Bells of Ireland. This Essay has never been published, but interesting extracts are given in Stokes' *Life of George Petrie, LL.D.*, pp. 277-280.

Pope Sabinian (A.D. 604) having ordered the hours to be sounded on the bells,* is thought by others to have introduced the use of the *Campanæ* or *Signa*, as the large bells were called, into churches. He, however, more probably found bells in partial use, and recognizing their beauty and value, encouraged their general adoption, as it is soon after his time that we read of their use in this country. They are mentioned in the *Ordo Romanus* about that date, as being used to announce Tierce, Mass, and Processions, and S. Owen in the life of S. Eloy (*circa* A.D. 650) speaks of the *Campana*.†

Legend tells of S. Columba hearing the midnight bell which called the brethren to matins in his church in Iona, and of his hurrying thither with feeble steps, and there dying before the altar, on June the 9th, A.D. 597. It is, however, nearly a century later before we meet with an authentic record of the church bell as being in use in this country. Bede mentions the existence of one at Streanæshalch (Whitby) in the year 680, which was used to awake, and to call the nuns to prayer.‡ The second excerption of Egbert, issued about the year 750, commands every priest, at the proper hours, to sound the bells of his church, and then to go through the sacred offices of God. In the year 816 the Canons of Wulfred gave directions as to the sounding of the *Signum* in every church upon the death of a bishop.§ In the tenth century we trace the existence of

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* Walcott's *Sac. Arch.*, p. 96.

† Walcott's *Sac. Arch.* p. 66.

‡ *Eccl. Hist.*, Book iv., c. xxiv. (Gidley's Translation).

§ Johnson's *English Canons*, Part I., p. 306.

bells in one of the illuminations in S. Æthelwold's *Benedictional*, a gorgeous manuscript, certainly executed before the close of that century: an open campanile appears in which are suspended four bells.*

The building of churches, and the founding of bells, were much encouraged at that time by a decree which provided that a Thane's rank might be obtained by a Saxon churl or franklin if he were rich enough to possess about five hundred acres of land, and had a church with a bell tower on his estate.† About that time too, if we may trust Ingulph, we find a ring of bells at Croyland Abbey in this county, which will be more particularly described hereafter. From Ingulph's remarks we may infer that single bells, if not rings, were then well known in this country. Neither were the abbots of Croyland the only ecclesiastics of that period whose names are handed down to us as founders of bells. S. Dunstan, "the chief of monks," an expert worker in metals, cast a bell, which for many ages after his death hung in Canterbury Cathedral; two bells cast under his direction were at Abingdon, where also were other two the work of its founder S. Æthelwold.‡ In the year A.D. 1035 King Canute gave two bells, amongst other rich gifts, to Winchester Cathedral, and in the same century gifts of pairs of bells were made to Southwell and to Beverley, as well as to Stow S. Mary in this county. S. Dunstan also drew up Rules for the ringing of the Bells, as did Lanfranc,

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* *Archæologia*, xxiv., plate 32.

† Churton's *Early English Church*, p. 230.

‡ Rock's *Church of our Fathers*, iii., Part 2, p. 57.

Archbishop of Canterbury.* It will thus be seen that bells were well known to the Anglo-Saxon Church; and our word bell is said to be derived from the Saxon *bellan*, to roar or bellow, so Chaucer "as loud as belleth wind in hell."† So too there is every reason for believing that at the Norman Conquest the art of bellfounding was well understood, and carried to great perfection in this country: the law of Curfew could not have been carried into effect if bells had not then been in general use. The grand old Norman—if not Saxon—towers of our churches (witness Brigstock and Brixworth in Northamptonshire) clearly point to the large and heavy bells which they were built to contain.

The first Englishman who followed bellfounding as a trade at present known by name, was Roger de Ropeforde of Paignton, who, in 1284, was employed to make four bells for the north tower of Exeter Cathedral,‡ and about the same time Michael de Lichfield, bellfounder, was plying

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* See these Rules in *Church Bells of Somerset*, pp. 113 and 114.

† The Rev. J. T. Fowler on *Bells and Bellringing*.

‡ Ellacombe's *Bells of Exeter Cathedral*, p 3. See also *Notes and Queries*, 5th s. iii., p. 77, for an interesting account of the casting of a bell in the same year (1284). An endorsement on the parchment upon which this account is written shows not only the constituent parts of the bell-metal, but also proves the fact that those who could not subscribe to the cost in money, gave in kind:—"Metal for the bell. They answer for 180 pounds of brass received as gifts, as in pots, platters, basons, lavers, kettles, brass mortars, and mill-pots. Also for 425 pounds received from one old bell. Also, for 40 pounds of brass, received by purchase. Also, for 896 pounds of copper received by purchase. Also, for 320 pounds of tin received by purchase.

"Sum 1861 pounds, of which there has been melted in making the new bell 1781 pounds; and there are 80 pounds remaining over."

his craft in that city.* It is doubtful whether Fergus of Boston—*circa* 1100—who will be mentioned hereafter, cast large bells.

In the thirteenth century we meet with constant mention of bells as of things not in the least extraordinary or rare: indeed Matthew Paris writes as if, at least, every church of note, possessed one bell or more:† and in what are supposed to be the earliest complete lists of the necessary furniture of an English Parish Church contained in the decrees of Walter Grey, Archbishop of York, 1216-1255, and of Robert Winchelsey, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1293-1313, are found—in the former—"campanæ magnæ cum chordis suis," and—in the latter—"magnæ campanæ campanilis & cordæ ad easdem."‡

In the middle ages, when roads were bad, and locomotion difficult, bells were frequently cast within the precincts of Religious Houses, and in churchyards, the clergy or monks standing round, reciting prayers and chanting psalms. An instance of this occurred at S. Albans in the early part of the fourteenth century when the great bell called "Amphibalus," being broken, was recast in the hall of the sacristy.§ During excavations in the churchyard of Scalford, Leicestershire, some years ago, indications of the former existence of a furnace for the casting of the church bells there were discovered, and a mass of bell-metal was

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* Hewitt's *Handbook of Lichfield Cathedral.*

† Bohn's Ed., vol. iii. p. 51.

‡ Peacock's *Church Furniture*, p. 177-9.

§ Lloyd's *Altars of S. Alban's Abbey*, p. 45.

found, which had clearly been in a state of fusion on the spot; and a similar discovery was made a few years ago in the churchyard of Empingham, Rutland. Until quite recently the bellfounders occasionally acted in the same manner. "Great Tom" of Lincoln was cast in the minster yard in 1610; and the great bell of Canterbury was cast in the cathedral yard in 1762.* We also find instances (at Kirby Malzeard, Yorkshire, and Haddenham, in the Isle of Ely,) where a furnace was erected, and bells recast within the walls of the church itself.† The founders, too, sometimes itinerated with the implements of their craft to a central spot, where they set up their furnace, and did what business they could with the neighbourhood around. This was done at Winterton, in this county, by Daniel Hedderly, of Bawtry, in 1734; and by Henry Penn, of Peterborough, at Horncastle in 1717; Henry Bagley (formerly of Chacombe, Northamptonshire), then of Witney, Oxon, also says, in an advertisement issued in 1732, that he would if desired "cast any Ring or Rings of Bells in the town [to which] they belong."

It may be well to state here that the composition of bell-metal may be roughly said to be one portion of tin to three of copper. The popular belief that silver entered into the composition of the metal of our ancient bells, and that it is to its presence they are indebted for the beauty and purity of their tone is a great error. It was a custom to

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* *Bells and Bellringing*, by Rev. J. T. Fowler, F.S.A.

† *Bells of the Church*, p. 287. *Notes and Queries*, 5th, s. ii. 147.

cast a few coins into the furnace, but silver in any appreciable quantity would tend to injure, and not to improve, the tone. Age, no doubt, which changes the colour and roughens the surface of a bell, also improves in some manner—it has been suggested that it is by a very gradual process of oxidation—the character of its tone.

After the bell was cast, and was made ready for its high and airy chamber, it was set apart for its future use by a solemn ceremonial, and by the recitation of an Office which has been variously termed the Benediction, the Consecration, and the Baptism of the Bell. The use of this Office, if not coeval with the introduction of the church bell, is certainly of great antiquity. "It appears from a Pontifical preserved in the British Museum *(Cottonian MS. Vespasian D.* i. *p.* 127*)* that the service commenced with the recital of the Litany, and that whilst the choir sang the antiphon *Asperges me*, the psalm *Miserere* and psalm 145, with the five following psalms, and the antiphon *In civitate Domini clare sonant*, the bell about to be blessed was washed with holy water, wiped with a towel, and anointed by the bishop with the holy oil."* The Pontifical of Egbert, Archbishop of York, and other early Office books, have similar Services.

The *De Benedictione Signi vel Campanæ* of the more modern Roman Pontifical enjoins the same ceremonies interspersed with prayers, psalms, and antiphons. The bell is washed by the bishop with water, into which salt has

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* *Church Bells of Norfolk*, p. 17.

previously been cast; it is then dried by his attendants with clean linen; the bishop next dips the thumb of his right hand in the holy oil for the sick, and makes the sign of the cross on the top of the bell, he then anoints the bell again both with the holy oil for the sick and with chrism, saying the words:—

> "*Sancti + ficetur, et conse + cretur, Domine signum istud: in nomine Pa + tris et Fi + lii, et Spiritûs + Sancti: in honorem Sancti N. Pax tibi.*"

after which the inside of the bell is censed.*

This Office bore a close resemblance to that of Holy Baptism, both in the ceremonial used, and in the giving of a name to the bell. That was probably the reason why Charlemagne issued, in the year 789, an express injunction against the baptism of bells. Learned liturgical writers of the Roman Church maintain that the baptism of bells was not in ancient times, and is not now, as used by them, such as confers remission of sins—Southey quaintly observes "the original sin of a bell would be a flaw in the metal, or a defect in the tone, neither of which the priest undertakes to remove"—but the bells are thereby set apart from all secular uses, and blessed or consecrated; and the hope is that (in accordance with the prayers offered) by their sound the powers of demons may be restrained, and the sources

* See a full copy of this service from the Pontifical (Antwerp, 1627) in *Bells of the Church*, p. 83.

of storm, tempest, and contagion, kept away.* Whilst this no doubt is quite true, it must, nevertheless, be evident that the ceremony did frequently, in mediæval times, surpass that of a benediction, and, by an addition of other ceremonies to those enjoined in the Pontificals just quoted, bore so close a resemblance to baptism, as to present, at least to the eyes of the vulgar, a too close and irreverent resemblance to that Holy Sacrament. Le Sueur, an old French writer, shows this to have been the case. He says "that the imposition of the name, the godfathers and godmothers, the aspersion with holy-water, the unction, and the solemn consecration in the names of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, exceed in ceremonial splendour what is common at baptism, in order to make the blessing of bells more highly regarded by the people. Real baptism," he remarks, "may be administered by all kinds of persons, and the rite is simple, but in what is done to the bells there is much pomp. The service is long, the ceremonies are numerous, the sponsors are persons of quality, and the most considerable priest in the place, or even a bishop or archbishop officiates."† That this was the case in England,

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* Lawrence Beyerlink, Canon of Antwerp, &c., &c., in his "*Select Sermons of various Subjects*" (Cologne 1627) says:—"Hence the custom of sponsors is free from all impiety, although the Roman Pontifical orders no such thing. For why cannot special persons be appointed to have care of the bell and contribute to its expenses. . . . . A name is given to a bell, not as if it were a living thing, but just as names are given to gates, harbours, and fortifications, or rather it should not so much be said that a name is given to it, as that it is consecrated in honour of some saint whose name afterwards continues with it." Quoted in *Bells of the Church*, p. 93.

† Quoted by Gatty, *The Bell*, p. 22.

as well as in France, we learn from a curious entry made by the churchwardens of S. Lawrence, Reading, in their Accounts for the year 1499:—

	s.	*d.*
"Itm. payed for haloweng of the grete bell namyd Harry And mem. that Sir Willm. Symys, Richard Clech and maistres Smyth beyng godfaders and godmoder at the consecracyon of the same bell, and beryng all o^{r} costs to the suffrygan."*	vj.	viij.

This custom of blessing bells before raising them to their place in the church tower points to the origin of bell inscriptions; the earliest inscriptions being simply the name of the saint placed upon the bell when it was cast, and ratified at its consecration.† There is a singular proof of this in an unique inscription on a bell at Crostwight, Norfolk:—

ASLAK JOH'ES JOH'EM ME NOI'AVIT

John Aslak being clearly the godfather at the benediction or baptism of the bell.‡

It may here be worth noting that by a Commission from William, Bishop of Lincoln, dated the 21st of April, 1501, his suffragan, "Thomas Bishop Achaden," was empowered to consecrate moveable and fixed altars, bells, &c., &c., in

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* *Notes and Queries*, 3rd s. vii. p. 90.

† It does not follow that the name given was always indicated in the inscription: indeed some ancient bells have no inscription at all.

‡ *Church Bells of Norfolk*, p. 17.

the Archdeaconries of Lincoln, Stow, Leicester, and Huntingdon.*

When the mediæval form of benediction was done away with in this country at the Reformation, English churchmen, unfortunately, were not furnished with any form of dedication to supply its place. Consequently, the people in getting rid of the superstitious rite of their fathers, substituted, upon the advent of a new bell, or ring of bells,† indecorous conviviality similar to that which is described by White of Selborne, who tells us that when new bells were brought to his parish in 1735, the event was celebrated by fixing the treble bottom upwards, and filling it with punch. It is a matter for thankfulness that this profane "christening" is becoming a thing of the past, and that the church is again receiving bells within her towers with a dedication service, sanctioned and used by her bishops, which is joyous and reverent in tone, and calculated to give all, clergy and people, a fitting impression of the uses to which the Bells of the Church are intended to be put. After such a dedication they can scarcely be used, as they frequently have been in times past, upon most improper occasions—occasions when things had been enacted completely opposed to the honour of God, and utterly alien to the teaching of the church, whose fast and festival the bells are to mark, and whose summons to prayer and praise they are day by day to sound.

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* *Harl. MSS.* 7048, p. 499.

† A bell is spoken of by ringers in the feminine gender; a set of bells is properly called "a ring;" a performance upon them "a peal."

It is now time to turn to the bell itself, and to see what it has to say in elucidation of its past history. To do this we must ascend to the bell chamber in the church tower, or to the bell turret on the roof. This is not always, by any means, an easy, pleasant, or even a safe, thing to do. Some of the stone staircases in our church towers are so much worn that only a scant and precarious foothold is left, and some of the long ladders by which the bells are reached are almost perpendicular, and, occasionally, so decaying with age, as to render a climb up them a proceeding requiring great care and some nerve. The floor of the bell chamber, too, is occasionally found rotten and covered with filth. Once up, however, the difficulty or danger attending the ascent is forgotten; the ancient bells, so often heard, never, perhaps, before seen, are looked upon with reverence, almost with awe. We think of the many changes which have taken place in all around—many of which they have noted with their solemn tolls or their joyous peals—since they were first placed there. Our reverie, however, is broken by the cold wind rushing through the louvre boards in the windows, so we hasten to complete our work—take our "rubbing" or our "squeeze," give one hasty glance through the openings at the grand peeps of the surrounding country, so well obtained in our elevated position, and then descend with greater ease, and with much less trepidation, than we ascended.

The earliest bells do not generally tell us anything as to the date when, or the locality in which, they were cast. They usually bear nothing more than the names of the

saints in whose honour they were dedicated. Upon the tenor, or largest, bell was frequently placed the name of the patron saint of the church; upon the smaller ones, perhaps, the names of the saints whose altars were formerly in the church below, or who were the patrons of ancient Guilds or Confraternities in the parish.* We shall see that the ancient bells at Croyland Abbey bore names; and from an ancient Roll at Ely we learn that when they cast four new bells for the Cathedral in the year 1346-7 they gave them the names of Jesus, John, Mary, and Walsyngham.† Bells of this class (though not necessarily of this early date) are found in this county. We may mention now

IHESVS

at Hacconby:

VOCOR : MARIA

at South Somercotes:

VOCOR ANDREA

at Ingoldsby:

SC̄E DIONISII

at Aswarby:

GABRIEL

at Branston.

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* Inscriptions are usually placed upon the haunch, or, as some call it the shoulder, of the bell: on old bells they are sometimes found nearer the canons.

† *Church Bells of Cambridgeshire*, p. 6.

A few early dated English bells have, however, been discovered. One (supposed to be the oldest dated bell in the kingdom) is at S. Chad's Church, Claughton, Lancashire, and is dated 1296, thus:—

+ ANNO DNI · M · CC · NONO · AI .

the letter V being reversed.

At Cold Ashby, Northamptonshire, there hangs an interesting bell dated 1317; and in this county two richly ornamented bells, dated 1423, are at South Somercotes, and another pair, cast eight years later, are still in existence at Somerby, near Brigg.

These early inscriptions are usually in stately Gothic capital letters, and in Latin—the language of the mediæval church.

We soon meet with a slight extension of the inscriptions such as—to quote Lincolnshire examples:—

KVIVS SĀI MARTINI

at Claxby S. Mary:

+ ISTA CAMPANA FIT
IN HONORE SANCTI
AUGUSTINI

at Laceby, and

+ MARIA MATER DEI
EST NOMEN MEUM

at Whitton.

Bells cast in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries though undated, have generally founders' marks, initial crosses, and other means of recognition by which they can be classified, and, in many cases, assigned to their respective dates and foundries. These trade marks, taken by themselves, are, however, by no means infallible guides as to the date of the bell upon which they are found; for as foundries often went on for generations, and even for centuries, so the marks and stamps were, no doubt, handed down from one founder to another, and so were used for a long period. They also not unfrequently passed from one foundry to another.

On bells of this date, and on to the period of the Reformation, we frequently find the invocation "*Ora pro nobis*" added to the name of the saint, thus :—

+ SC̄A MARGARETA ORA PRO NOBIS

as at Enderby Bag, and

+ OMNES SANCTI ORATE PRO NOBIS

as at Laughton.

These invocations were taken from the Litany; and many of the other inscriptions found on ancient bells in this and other counties doubtless owe their origin to the various Offices of the mediæval church. Very many have, in whole or in part, the angelic salutation :—

AVE MARIA GRACIA PLENA DOMINVS TECVM

and many have, as will be seen hereafter, inscriptions in rhyming verse, often of a precatory character.

Occasionally we find figures of the Blessed Virgin and Child, of men and of angels on bells of this date. Examples of such are found in Leicestershire and Northamptonshire. Figures of the Virgin and Child are upon bells at Haxey and Wellingore in this county.

English inscriptions, though rare as early as the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, were sometimes used. At Long Sutton, near Odiham, Hants, and at East Dean, near Chichester, are bells inscribed :—

HAL MARI FVL OF GRAS

at Gainford, Durham, is another with :—

HELP MARI QUOD ROGER OF KIRKEBY

that is, Help Mary quoth, or saith, Roger of Kirkby, who was vicar 1401—1412.* On the 3rd bell at S. Chad's Lichfield is

+ OUR LADI MARI S[A]UETH AL

On Lincolnshire Bells are several good examples as—not to mention all—at Alkborough, where we find :—

+ IESV : FOR : VI : MODIR : SAKE : SAVE : AL : VE : SAVLS : THAT : ME : GART : MAKE : AMEN.

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* Sottanstall's *Campanologia.*

at Laceby:—

+ MARY : OF HAWARDBY : OF VS : HAVE : MERCY

and (though somewhat later) at Semperingham:—

+ BE NOT OVER BUSIE.

The founder's name, too, occasionally appears, as at Bicker, North Elkington, Sutterton, and Scawby; and the donor's as at Dunsby, Saltfleetby S. Clement, and at Somerby near Brigg, all in this county.

At the date of which we are now speaking there was no such thing known as change-ringing: and, indeed it would seem that neither ringing "rounds" nor chiming in "tune" were possible in the great majority of our churches. In the Returns of the Commissioners for taking lists of the ornaments of the churches in the Hundred of Framland, Leicestershire, in 6 Edward VI. certain churches are mentioned as possessing "bells *of a corde*" or "bells of *one ryng*," meaning, I suppose, that the notes of these bells were in musical sequence, and Stow, in describing S. Bartholomew's Church in Smithfield, says, "in the bell tower sixe Belles *in a tune*." In the existing Returns from Lincolnshire parishes, Claxby S. Mary and Harrington are each described as possessing "ij bells of one Reinge." The other churches are noted, simply, as possessing a certain number of bells, unfit, apparently, for musical chiming or ringing, but quite adequate to the custom of the time. That custom, probably, was in ordinary churches to

have in addition to its own, or parish, bell, a bell for the *Angelus*, and one for each of the several altars which were usually found there dedicated to different saints, and which was sounded when mass was about being said at its particular altar. At Ludlow in addition to the fore bell, second bell, third bell, second tenor, and great bell, they possessed "our Lady belle," "First mass-bell." and "the gild belle."* Even now one bell is all that is required by the Rubric and (as now followed) by the Canons to be provided, of necessity, in churches at the charge of the parish. There is, however, no doubt that all the bells, notwithstanding their being unfitted for musical ringing or chiming, were used for Divine Service on Sundays. We find the Bell-master at Loughborough, Leicestershire, in the time of Edward VI. or earlier, was obliged "to help to reng to sarvys if ned be." The custom in larger churches where the canonical hours were kept will be referred to hereafter. Towards the close of the sixteenth century care was sometimes taken when bells were recast to have them "in tune." An instance of this occurred at Loughborough, Leicestershire, in 1586, when the churchwardens paid fourteenpence "to John Wever for his tow dayes chardges when he went to Nottingham for them that came to prove the tune of ye bells:" and an earlier instance appears to be pointed to by the churchwardens of S. Mary-at-Hill, who, in the year 1510, paid eightpence for "wyne and pers" consumed by four men and "the clarks of Seynt Anthonys"

* Ludlow *Churchwardens' Accounts* published by Camden Society.

who went to "see whey^r Smythes bell wer Tewnabill or not."

The decay of Gothic art, however, followed by the Reformation, introduced many changes in connection with bells, as it did with other "ornaments" of the church. The stately Gothic capital, and the quaint small "black letter," gradually gave place to clumsy Roman letters for the inscriptions. The beautiful initial cross, also, gradually disappeared. Figures of saint or angel were discarded. English, although it did not supplant Latin, gained a full share of use on the bells. Ancient Inscriptions were sometimes erased, and the old forms were dropped, at first to give place to mottos of a reverent character, which soon, however, drifted, in many instances, into doggrel rhyme—stupid, frivolous, and thoroughly out of place, or into a bare list of names of vicar and churchwardens. Dates, in Arabic numerals, now appear on every bell; and founders' names abound. Specimens of all these will be found on the Bells of this county hereinafter described.

Sometimes eighteenth century bells bear the names of their donors, or commemorate some event of national interest, but bell inscriptions (with some praiseworthy exceptions) after the middle of the seventeenth century afford little interest. With the revival of Gothic art, and a clearer perception of the fitness of things, it is pleasant to note that our new church bells are frequently cast with inscriptions and devices befitting their position and their use.

Very little can be told about the large bells of the Religious Houses in Lincolnshire before their Dissolution:

a diligent search through the "*Ministers' Accounts*," "*Suppression Papers*," and other manuscripts in the Public Record Office has only yielded a very brief valuation of the lead and bells of nineteen Houses out of the large number formerly existing in the county. The following short entries are from the "*Comput. Johnis ffreman Armigii Receptoris*," dated 31st and 32nd Henry VIII. :—

BOURN; in plumbo cxxj^{li} x^{di} in campanis ..... xliij^{li} xiij^{di}
in tot' clxv^{li} iij^{di}.

VALDYE: in plumbo clxv^{li} in campnis ..... xxxvij^{li} vij^{di}
in toto ccij^{li} vij^{di}.

[A bell from hence is traditionally believed to have gone to Edenham, and to have been recast into the tenor bell there.]

NOCTON: in plumbo lxix^{li} in campanis..... xxxiij^{li} xv^{di}
in tot' cij^{li} xv^{di}.

SWINESHEAD: in plumbo ccxxxiiij^{li} in campanis..... xxxix^{li} iiij^{di}
ij stepynge leads and ij latten pannes ..... xx^{di}
in tot' cclxxiiij^{li} iij^{di}.

TUPHOLME: in plumbo iiij j^{li} in campanis .....xxxij^{li} xij^{di} vj^{d}
in tot' cxiij^{li} xij^{di} vj^{d}.

GRENEFELD: in plumbo cxxix^{li} in campanis ..... vj^{li} xviij^{di}
in toto cxxxv^{li} xviij^{di}.

. . . BYE: in plumbo cxxvij^{li} x^{di} in campanis ..... xxvj^{li} vj^{di} vj^{d}
in tot' cliij^{li} xvj^{di} vj^{d}.

HAGNABY: in plumbo lxxviij^{li} in campanis ..... xxxj^{li} v^{di} vj^{d}
in toto cix^{li} v^{di} vj^{d}.

LOUTH PARK: in plumbo clxiiij^{li} in campanis..... xxxiiij^{li} xiij^{i}
in tot' ciiij xx xviij^{li} xiij^{di}.

[The MS. Chronicle of Louth Park has only the following references to the bells:—

Mcclxxxix. Facta est magna campana de Parco Lude.
Mcccvi. Facta est parva campana collocionis cimbolum [?]
Mcccx. Facta est nova celebrata in campan'.]

STAINFIELD: in plumbo clxv^{li} in campanis ..... xxij^{li} xiij^{di} vj^{d}
in toto $\overset{xx}{\text{ciiij}}$ vij^{li} xiij^{di} vj^{d}.

WELLO: in plumbo clxv^{li} in campanis..... xxxvij^{li} xvj^{di}
in tot' ccij^{li} xvj^{di}.

HUMBERSTONE: in plumbo xl^{li} x^{di} in campanis ..... xvj^{li} iiij^{di}
in tot' lvj^{li} xiiij^{di}.

NEWSOME: in plumbo iiij $\overset{c}{\text{xj}}$^{li} in campanis ..... xlj^{li} viij^{di}
in tot' $\overset{c}{\text{iiij}}$ lij^{li} viij^{di}.

ELTHAM: in plumbo $\overset{xx}{\text{iiij}}$ iiij^{li} in campanis..... vij^{li} xvij^{di} vj^{d}
in tot' $\overset{xx}{\text{iiij}}$ xj^{li} xvij^{di} vj^{d}.

THORNHOLME: in plumbo clx^{li} in campanis..... xxiij^{li} iij^{di} vj^{d}
in tot' $\overset{xx}{\text{ciiij}}$ iij^{li} iij^{di} vj^{d}.

GOKEWELL: in plumbo lxvij^{li} x^{di} in campanis..... x^{li} vj^{di}
in toto lxix^{li} x^{di} vj^{d} [?]

TORKSEY: in plumbo xlviij^{li} in campanis..... xvij^{li} xv^{di} vj^{d}
in tot' lxv^{li} xv^{di} vj^{d}.

NEWBOO: in plumbo cxlij^{li} x^{di} in campanis ..... xviij^{li} vij^{di}
in toto clxx^{li} xvij^{di}.

NEWSTED JUXTA STAMFORD: in plumbo vij^{li} x^{di} in campanis cviij
in toto xij^{li} xviij^{di}.*

The sale of the bells and lead was generally expressly

* *Ministers' Accounts*, 31, 32 Hen. VIII., No. 254, P. R. Off.

excepted from that of the *supellex*, or general furniture: such was the case in a document, dated 25th April, 1543, authorizing the sale of the *supellex* of the Prior and Convent of Spalding:* the value of the bells there is not now forthcoming.

In the second year of Edward the Sixth's reign a Commission was issued to enquire into the quantity and value of church furniture and ornaments throughout England, and to forbid their sale or misappropriation. The following is a copy of the Certificate under that Commission for the greater portion of Lincolnshire. It is dated the 10th of April, 1549, and addressed to the Lords of the Privy Council:—

THE CERTIFICAT OF P'ATE JEWELLS BELLES &C. IN LYINCOLSHIRE X^mo^ AP'LIS 1549.

Plesyth yt yower grace wyth the Reste of the Kynges maiestye most hōrable councell to be aduertyssed that accordyng to yower letteres to vs addressyd wee haue taken parfyte and trewe Invytores of all chalyces Jewelles playtes and belles wythin evyre churche and chappell in the countye of lyncoln, excepte the wappentak of kirkton in holland wyche was allottyd to Thomas hollande Blayse holland and John Bolles esquyers of whose ꝑcedyngs hytherto wee haue not harde. The nombre of wyche chalyces arre vj^c^lxxxviijth Crosses viij pyxes xxvij paxes v Crewettes ij Crysmatores viij Sensers vj Kandylstyckes ij Baysens j one bolle and a dyshe of Sylver. Greate Belles m^l^vij^c^liij Sanctus belles iiij^c^lxxv after the computacyon of v^xx^ to the hundrethe as yt doythe appere more playnely and p'tyculerly in the sayd sevyrall Invytories delyverd to

* Quoted in Nichols' *Account of the Spalding Gentlemen's Soc.* (1784), p. 17.

the sevyrall custos Rotulor' wythin the sayde countye therto be Safely kepte to the kynges maiestye plesure and yoweres be therein further knowne and lykewyse delyverd to the wardens parson or curate of evyre paryshe churche the counterpayre of the sayde Sevyrall Invytores wyth lyke charge as was conteynyde in yower sayde letteres thus comyttynge yower grace wyth the Reste of the Kynges maiestye most honorable councell to the tuyscyon (?) of the ever lyvyng god, wrytten at lyncoln the x^t^ day of apryll 1549.

Md that over and besydes this ower sytyfycate the' is delyveryd in to the handes of Rychard goodryk esquyer of london Seven hundrethe and fyve vncys of playte of churche goodes of lowthe in the sayd countye of lyncoln to the Intent to purchasse certayne landes to be Imployed for the Rylyfe of the pore people and other necessaries as more playnely apperythe in the Invytorye of the same towne lefte in the custody of the custos Rotulor'

Thomas hennege	John hennege
ffrances ayscoughe	Rychard Desney
John copledyke	Richard Ogle
Rychard bollyes	Willm Thorold
John Tourny	Richard paynell
George Sayntpoll	

Willm Aramely [?]

[Endorsed:] To the right honorable the lorde Protector hys grace and other lordes of the kinge Mat^ies^ most honorable pryvey counsale.*

This Commission failing to complete its object; about four years afterwards—in 1552—another was issued which carried out its purpose more effectually. Under this Commission enquiry was made, upon oath, as to any loss which had accrued, by the removal or misappropriation of

* *Exch. Q. R.*, $\frac{3}{35}$ P. R. Office.

church goods, to the different churches, since the Inventories of 1549 were made. A new appraised list was drawn up, and the goods therein mentioned were committed to the safe keeping of the Churchwardens and Curate of the parish. A few of these Inventories, dated 19th August, 6 Edward VI., for parishes in the Deaneries of Hill, Nos. 1 and 2, in this county, are preserved amongst the *Land Revenue Records* in the Public Record Office, and will be quoted from hereafter when the bells in those parishes are described. At the bottom of each Inventory is a statement like the following, which is from the Inventory for Ashby Puerorum :—

> The seid Edmūdde Thewe & Wiłłm Thewe churche Wardens & p'sent's sayes vppon ther othes that ther is nothyng dymynysshed sence the last Inventory that was made & taken by the Justices & the bysshope.
>
> M^d^ that all the churche goodes is comytted to the sayfe keipyng of the seid p'sent's savyng one challice one Vestement one coope one surplysse wch is comytted to the Curate for s'vyng of the churche.
>
> ffrancs ayscough
> Edward Dymok
> Wyłłm Monson.

Again, in January 1553, a third Commission was issued, under which the Commissioners had power and authority to "collect and bring together all and singuler redye money plate and Juelles certyfyed by our Commyssioners aforesaid [*i.e.* under the previous Commission] to remayne in any church, chapell, Guild, Brothered, Fraternitye or company

in any shire Countye or place within this our Realme of Englond." This Commission, which is a long one, directed one or two chalices to be left out of the confiscated plate for use in every cathedral or collegiate church, and one chalice for every small parish church or chapel where chalices were remaining. It next provided for the sale or distribution of the other "ornaments and ymplements" of the churches, and with regard to the bells directed :—

> And also to sell or cause to be sold to our use by weight all parcells or peces of metall except the metall of greatt bell, saunse bells, in every of the said churches or chapells.*

This order as to the bells has generally been understood to direct the sale of all the large bells with the exception of the largest, or tenor, in each ring. What was meant, I think, was not the confiscation of all excepting one bell, but that all broken bells—"peces of metall"—and bells, other than the parish church bells proper, were to be sold, and the proceeds remitted to the king's exchequer: this view is borne out by the fact, abundantly proved, that the church bells were not sold, and also by the express injunction charged later in this same Commission upon all Deans, Provosts, Churchwardens, Ministers, and parishioners of the said churches and chapels :—

> That they and everye of them do safely kepe unspoiled, unembesiled and unsold all suche bells as do remayne in everye of the said Churches and chapells and the same to conserve untill our pleasur be therein further knowne.

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* *Seventh Report of the Deputy-Keeper of the Public Records*, p. 312.

When the clean sweep intended under this Commission was effected, an Indented Inventory of the few goods left behind in each parish was drawn up, and a duplicate copy left with the Vicar and Churchwardens. Some of these Indented Inventories relating to Lincolnshire are still extant in the Public Record Office, and will be quoted hereafter; they relate to parishes chiefly in the Deaneries of Bolingbroke, Isle of Axholme, Corringham, Gartree, Grimsby Nos. 1 and 2, Horncastle, Manlake, and Walshcroft. A copy of one of them will explain all the others: the one selected related to the Church of S. Botolph, Boston, a church formerly very rich in plate, jewels and vestments:—

> This Indenture made the xxvj day of may in the seventh yere of the reigne of our sou'aign lord kyng Edward the sixt by the grace of god of England Fraunce & Irelond Kynge defendur of the Faith & in erth of the Church of England & also of Ireland the sup'me head Between Robt. Cobbes maior of the Borough of Boston in the Countie of Lincoln George Saintpoll Thomas Browne and Richard Ogle Esquiers & John Tuxholme marchunt Comission' assigned by the Kynges highnes Comission ffor thorder & sale of the church goodes wthin the seid Borough on thone ꝑtie and Marten Bradley of Boston Marchant of the staple at Calice Wiłłm Wesenghm̃ of Boston aforesaid Botcher & Xrofer Nesse of the same Cordyn'wanow Wardens of the seid churche of Boston of thother ꝑtie Wittenesith that the seid Comissioners by vertue of the seid Comission have assigned & delyv̊ed the day & yere of this ꝑsent to the seid churche wardeyns one chalice sylver gilte wth a paten Weying xxiiij ounces for the furniture of ye comunion ther & fyve great belles in the steple ther wth one sanctus bell valew to the som̃e of one hundredth marks savely & surely by them to be kept to the kinges ma^{ties} use untill his highnes pleasure be further

knowen in that behalf whiche chalice & belles the seid church wardeyns cuvenāt for them ther executors & administrators by these ꝑsentes savely to kepe the same to the use aforeseid in wyttenes whereof to these ꝑsentes & Indentures to thone ꝑte of thes ꝑsentes remeynyng wth the seid churche wardeyns the seid comissioners have sett ther seales and to thother ꝑte of the same remayning wth the seid Comissioners the seid churche wardeyns have sett ther seales the day & yer above seid

By me Marten Bradley
ꝑ me Wiłłm Wesham
x x
Xrtfer Nesse.*

That the quantity of bell-metal that came into the hands of the king was very large there can be no doubt; and that much of it was purchased for sale abroad is shown by a memorial, still preserved, addressed to the King's Council by Thomas Egerton. In it he desires to have from the king "all the bell metall that his Highenesse nowe hathe in the realme at the price of xx^s^ everie hunderith waighte" to be delivered at some port or ports in readiness to be shipped, together with passport, and the king's licence, and the same to be dealt with at the convenience and pleasure of the petitioner. He further asks for six years for payment after the receipt of the last, or else to be bound for payment after the receipt of any part for its value and no more; and so on, from time to time. As an alternative he offers to pay a third within three years after receipt, and after another three years another third part, and the remaining

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Exch. Q. R. $\frac{3}{59}$ *Ch. Goods, Lincs.*, P. R. Off.

third after other three years, or else the whole at six years' end as beforesaid. He further agrees to be bound within, or at the end of the six years, to bring into his majesty's mint as much fine gold and silver from beyond the seas, to be coined after the standard, as amount to the value of the bell metal received. He provides for reduction if the standard of money be hereafter lowered; and finally he thinks that no person can offer more without being a loser.*

Upon the death of Edward VI. the sale and the removal of bell-metal in Lincolnshire were not completed. A document, dated in the second year of Queen Mary, throws some light upon the subject. It is an indenture, made on the 26th of July, 1554, between John Bellowe of Newstede, in the County of Lincoln, Esquire, one of the Queen's Surveyors, of the one part, and Henry Hoblethorne of London, Knight, and John Whyte of London, Grocer, of the other part. It witnesses that the said "Harrye" Hoblethorne and John Whyte have received at the delivery of the said John Bellowe by force of a warrant, dated the 25th of April, in the first year of Queen Mary [1554], from Sir William Pollett [Paulet], K.G., Marquis of Winchester and Lord Treasurer of England, and "Davye" Brocke, Knight, Lord Chief Baron of the Queen's Exchequer, the number of seventeen thousand one hundred and twenty-one pounds of bell-metal remaining at the town of Kingston-

* *Land Revenue Records. Church Goods* $\frac{4\,5}{2\,3}$] P. R. Off. There is also a Memorial from the same Thomas Egerton to the Duke of Northumberland, desiring his Grace's support of his petition to the Council: also articles "towching the request of Thomas Egerton."

upon-Hull, "in the wayehouse there," and also "xxxj m^{H} nyne hondrethe therequerters & one & twentye poundes of bell mettalle which Remayned at Grett Grymsbye in the County of Lyncolne:" all which in the whole amount to forty-nine thousand one hundred and fourteen pounds *(sic)*. The charges for weighing and otherwise defrayed by the said Sir Henry Hoblethorne and John Whyte amounts to £7. 6s. 8d., as appears by a bill of parcels annexed to this Indenture.

This document is a copy of the original Indenture signed by "Jn° bellowe," as appears from this memorandum at the bottom:—

> Mr. Bellowe, I have sent yow here the copye of the Indentuer verbatum (*sic*) & is wrytten with my owne hande the xij day of Febrery In 1555
>
> Y^{rs} Jn°. Whyt Ald.*

Though not now annexed there is extant a copy of the "Bill of Parcels," so far as relates to the "xxxj^{ml} ix^{c} iijqrt xxi lib. w^{t}" of bell-metal which remained at Great Grimsby. The metal—some of which appears to have been stowed in barrels—consisted of sixty-one lots, the weight of each lot being given. Unfortunately no clue is afforded as to the parishes from which the metal came. The document is endorsed "Lincolnshire: for all the belles there delyvered

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* Endorsed "Belloo for Bells in Com̃ Lincolne." *Land Revenue Records. Church Goods* $^{4\frac{5}{5}1}$ P. R. Off.

to Mr. White alderman;" and it also has this memorandum at the bottom:—

> Mr. bellow: y^is^ is y^e^ Coppye of y^e^ ꝑtyculor wayght of W^m^ townerows boke of y^e^ bells R̄cd & wayed onlye At grymsby &c.
> Yo^rs^ Jno Whyt.*

It appears from these documents that John Bellow was the Queen's Surveyor, whose duty it was to see to the weight of the metal handed over to the purchasers, who, in the case of the Lincolnshire contribution, were Henry Hoblethorn of London, knight, and John Whyte of London, grocer, who was also an alderman of the city; the former was, probably, a surety for the fulfilment of the contract by the latter—the real purchaser—for I find another document in which under the head of "Com̄ Licoln̄" is:—

	Bellys	
	m l a	
The Bellys of the hole circuyte	xxxj ix^c^ iij qrt & xxj^li^ weyght	to be answeryd by Mr Whyte of London the yonger Alderman†

This also shows that only the metal mentioned in the Indenture just abstracted as then remaining at Great Grimsby was from Lincolnshire; the other portion then remaining at Kingston-upon-Hull being probably collected from parishes in Yorkshire.

That the bells were collected at different places in the county, and afterwards sent to Grimsby as the general

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* *Land Revenue Records. Church Goods* $\frac{451}{40}$ P. R. Off. † *Land Revenue Records. Church Goods* $\frac{447}{6}$ P. R. Off.

depôt, is shown from a very fragmentary memorandum preserved amongst the Cottonian Manuscripts in the British Museum,* which, as illustrating our subject, is worth transcribing:—

> Bell mettall deliu'd p Wm Townerowe . . . . . .
> Henry Hoblethorne knight & John White M'chaunt . . .
> the xx day of July a^{o} rr Marie secundo.
> First at Thornton xvj belles wayinge xiij iij di di qt' . . .
> viij belles wayed ix^{c} v^{li}, one oy' wayed viij di one other . .
> vj^{c} di vij^{li} one other iij j di xxiij^{li} one other ij iij di
> one other wayed viij^{c} iij qt' vij^{li} one other x^{c} iij qt' xxij^{li}
> one other xvij^{c} j qt' one oth' xvij^{c} j qt' ix^{li}
> Itm at Boston ix belles waying vj^{c} iij qt' v^{li} wherof
> one wayed j^{c} xvij^{li} one other j^{c} xxj^{li} one oth' iij qt' xxvj^{li}
> one other j^{c} j qt' ix^{li} one oth' xviij^{li} one oth^{r} xxix^{li} one
> other j^{c} di xxvj^{li}
> Itm at Lowth vj belles waying v^{c} j^{li} wherof one
> wayed j^{c} vj^{li} one other j^{c} xxv^{li} one other j^{c} xvij^{li} one
> other j^{c} j qt' iiij^{li} one other iij^{li} one other j qt' ij^{li}

Two years later the sound of the stolen bells is still in the air. On the 14th of May 1556, Robert Goche, Esq., Receiver of the County of Lincoln, wrote from his house at Chillwell to Mr. Barners, Mr. Mildmay and Mr. Wiseman, the Commissioners for Lead and Bells. The letter begins with a reference to the "newe weight and the olde of such leadd as was waied by warrinte from my L. North at Grymesbie," and mentions a book, then missing, which

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* *Tiberius, E.*, 3, p. 67.

ought to be produced by John Barton; after which a complaint is made against Mr. Bellow, the Surveyor (to whom reference has been already made) in these words:—

> For thaccompte of the belles I lefte with you therof the viewe the more playnes therof Barton canne enforme you declaringe vnto me that Mr. Bellowe hath takin awaie more belles then didd appeare in his accompte when I was there consideringe there were many smalle belles brokin in peces wch Mr. Bellowe hadd awaie as well as the hoole belles so that the hoole some of belles wille falle out by weight wch cannot appeare in nombre by reason of the brokin belles . . . . . .

A not very clear statement of a supposed wrong!

Notwithstanding the Commissions issued in the reign of Edward VI., and the measures taken to prevent it, the occasional robbery of churches still went on. Queen Elizabeth, soon after her accession, tried to stop the mischief by issuing a Proclamation, in which it was said:—

> That some patrons of churches and others who were possessed of impropriations, had prevailed with the parson & parishioners to take or throw down the bells of churches or chapels & the lead of the same, & to convert the same to their private gain, by which ensued not only the spoil of the said churches but even a slanderous desolation of the houses of prayer.

Therefore it was commanded:—

> That no manner of person should from thenceforth take away any bells or lead off any church or chapel under pain of imprisonment during Her Majesty's pleasure, & such further fine for the contempt as shall be thought meet.*

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* Quoted in *Heylyn's Hist. of Reformation*, II. p. 339.

It will be seen by the Certificate of Plate, Jewels, Bells, &c., in Lincolnshire, dated the 10th of April, 1549, already quoted [see p. 23], that there were then in the churches and chapels of the county, exclusive of the Wapentake of Kirton, in Holland, 1753 great bells and 475 Sanctus bells: if we add to that number the moderate addition of 47 of the former and 10 of the latter for that Wapentake, we find in the parish churches and chapels of Lincolnshire at the time of the Reformation 1800 great bells and 485 Sanctus bells.

Notwithstanding the increase made since in many rings for the purpose of change-ringing there are now only about 100 more large bells than there were three hundred and thirty years ago; and—as might be expected—the Priests' bells, which are the present successors of the Sanctus bells, have very much decreased in number, there being now about 70 only against 485 at the date to which we have referred. A reference to existing Inventories of Church Goods in the Lincolnshire churches in the time of Edward VI. shows that (with only one exception) no church, however small, had then less than two "great bells," whereas there are now about two hundred old parish churches in the county with only one bell, and that, in many cases, a miserable ting-tang*—and as in other counties so in this, comparatively few ancient bells are left. At what time, and for

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* Things might have been even worse if the old Kentish proverb formerly current at Charing, near Ashford, be true :—

Charing in the Dell lies in a hole
It has but *one bell*, and that it stole.

Charing has now a good ring of six bells.

what purpose those ancient bells were sacrificed, are questions which naturally suggest themselves.

By the Indented Inventories of the seventh year of King Edward the Sixth the church bells therein named were given into the charge of the parson and churchwardens for use in the churches respectively named. We must therefore look to those church officers, and to the action of the parishioners generally for some intimation as to the way in which they discharged their trust. No doubt during the changes and uncertainties in church teaching and ritual in the reigns of Edward VI. and Queen Mary some church bells were sacrificed by foolish people like the parishioners of Skidbrooke in this county, who being, as they subsequently confessed, "moved by universal talk, and by persons openly preaching against bells and other laudable ceremonies of the church, affirming the use of them to be superstitious and abominable," sold two of their bells for £20, which sum they expended upon repairing the church, and scouring out the haven then choked up with sand. Possibly also a few were seized by private persons, and sold for their own benefit; but it was, I think, the parsimony or poverty of churchmen in after years—in the seventeenth, eighteenth, and even in the present century, that induced the sale of so many bells from the smaller village churches in this county.

Many examples might be quoted: it will suffice to say that Beelsby, where was a fine ring of bells early in this century, has now only one small bell; two bells at Cadney were sold in the last century to pay for repairs at the

church; the same thing happened at Fosdyke, where one bell represents an older ring of five; Fulletby, Howell, South Reston, Skegness, Strubby, Sturton Magna, Low Toynton and other churches all lost bells under similar circumstances: Thimbleby lost a ring of six bells to pay for exchanging an ancient gothic church for a so-called classic and unsightly structure; and, lastly, we must mention the needless sacrifice of the ring of the six Lady bells formerly in the grand central tower of the Cathedral church of Lincoln. Some Lincolnshire bells were damaged by the fall of church towers, never recast, and so lost: Conisholme, Fulstow, Lusby, and possibly other parishes, lost their rings of bells in that way.

At a moderate computation a number of bells approaching four hundred—irrespective of the Sanctus or Priests' Bells—must have been lost to the Lincolnshire Churches since the death of Edward the Sixth.

Two other causes operated to lessen, if not the number of bells, certainly the number of ancient ones, and to necessitate the substitution of modern ones in their places. Ordinary and (in some, not all, cases) unavoidable wear and tear is the cause of the gradual loss of a goodly number of our ancient bells. When we remember the nature of the metal of which bells are made—how easily it may be cracked, and how reckless and ignorant, as a body, have been the ringers, into whose charge the bells have frequently been entirely left, we can well believe that many of our ancient bells have from time to time succumbed to their almost inevitable fate. They were cracked, and so obliged

to be recast to fit them again for their work. In this way, undoubtedly, many of them disappeared, to be replaced by more modern ones.

The introduction, however, of change ringing in the seventeenth century produced a still greater havoc among our ancient church bells. Early in that century ringing increased in popularity. The churchwardens of Loughborough, Leicestershire, charge in 1616:—

> "It. spent in giveing entertainment to the gentlemen strangers when they came to ringe ... ... xjs."*

Fabian Stedman, a printer, resident in Cambridge, is said to have reduced change ringing to an art.† He published his "*Tintinnalogia*" in 1668. Previously to the seventeenth century the ringing in use, where anything of the kind was attempted, was "rounds" or—as a slight advance upon that—at most "call changes," that is, the bells were rung "in one particular position for a great many pulls consecutively, and changed at some accustomed signal to a variation called by a fugleman or chalked on the belfry wall."‡ These must, in most cases, have been sorry performances, the bells not being "tunable" and so unfit for the purpose. "With change ringing proper the case"—to quote Mr. Ellacombe—"is very different: here a change is made at each stroke; the bells being never sounded twice in the same order; and

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* Thirty years before this date we are told that "certain Lusty young Fellows began to set up Ringing again" at Lynn Regis. See Mackerell's *History of Lynn Regis* (1738), p. 229.

† *Church Bells of Cambridgeshire*, p. 37.

‡ *Bells of the Church*, p. 32.

this is continued till the end of the peal, when the bells are brought '*home*' to their regular places. This end is only to be attained by each bell being made to follow a certain course, and to change places with the other bells by the evolution of certain rules or '*methods*.' To manage his bell properly in this respect, and guide it up and down the maze, making it strike now before, and now after, this or that other bell, not only requires much practice and study, but a cool head and close attention; and this necessity justifies the remark that ringing requires a mental as well as a bodily effort."*

To meet this new art of ringing, important changes in the bells were necessitated. The old rings consisted, usually, of few bells and heavy ones, dignity and grandeur of tone being then the chief thing sought. To ring the "changes," introduced by Stedman and his disciples, a larger number of bells was required. This want could be met in two ways, either by adding new trebles to the existing heavy rings, which was the best, but the most expensive way, or by recasting, say, four heavy bells into six or eight light ones, and so increasing the number without buying more metal. This was the least expensive, and, therefore the most popular plan. By this means a great number of our ancient bells disappeared from the larger town churches. It ceases, therefore, to be a matter of surprise that it is chiefly in small rural churches, with few bells, where the temptation to change-ringing could not

* *Bells of the Church*, p. 33.

exist, that we chiefly expect, and usually find, ancient bells.

The English have been for many generations enthusiastic admirers of the melody produced by a ring of bells. Whilst other nations—the Russians and Chinese for example—possess far heavier bells, and make much more noise by a rude irregular clanging, we have long been accomplished ringers, and our joyous peals—our "rounds" and numberless "changes" have in no slight degree added to the cheerful temperament of "merrie England." Indeed so popular did the art of ringing become after the invention of "changes" that England became known as the "ringing Island."

Ringing does not appear, however, to have been in all cases acceptable, for when the bells of S. Stephen's Chapel at Westminster were rung "men fabuled," says Stow, "that their ringing soured all the drink in the town."

Lincolnshire was not behind in this national taste. "This shire" says Fuller "carryes away the Bell for round-ringing from all in England, though other places surpasse it for changes, more pleasant from the variety thereof; seeing it may be demonstrated that twelve Bells will afford more changes than there have been hours since the creation."*

Peal-boards, however, in many of the ringing chambers testify that change-ringing was not neglected in Lincolnshire, and in the Cathedral itself we find a company of Ringers of our Blessed Virgin Mary of Lincoln at the commencement of the seventeenth century.

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* *Worthies*, fo. ed. Lincolnshire, p. 152.

The love of bells is still universal in this country. We need not be surprised at this for "these patriarchs in their tower hold constant converse with man, but they are not of him; they call him to his duties, they vibrate to his woes and joys, his perils and victories, but they are at once sympathetic and passionless; chiming at his will, but hanging far above him, ringing out the old generation, and ringing in the new, with a mechanical almost oppressive regularity, and an iron constancy which often makes them, and their grey towers, the most revered and ancient things in a large city."* In past ages the bells were supposed to be able to reciprocate this affection, and to ring of their own accord upon special occasions: as when Becket was murdered the bells of Canterbury rung without being touched: and as when Grostete the great bishop of Lincoln died in 1254, music, it was said, was heard in the air, and the bells of distant churches tolled of their own accord, so when Hugh, the boy-martyr of Lincoln was buried, it was said that

A' the bells o' merrie Lincoln
  Without men's hands were rung;
And a' the books o' merrie Lincoln
  Were read without men's tongue;
And ne'er was such a burial
  Sin' Adam's days begun.

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* Haweis: *Music and Morals*, p. 421.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

THERE are now in Lincolnshire 2034 Church Bells. That number includes 72 Priests' and other small ones. The 1962 large bells, hanging in no less than 683 churches, are thus distributed:—

"Great Tom" and the four Quarter-bells at Lincoln	5
1 Ring of 10 bells	10
18 Rings of 8 bells	144
46 Rings of 6 bells	276
68 Rings of 5 bells	340
48 Rings of 4 bells	192
203 Rings of 3 bells	609
51 Rings of 2 bells	102
Single bells	248
Carillon bells at Boston	36
	1962

To the 2034 Church Bells must be added, as worthy of notice, the bell at Wainfleet School, and the curious and ancient one hanging at the Town Hall, Lincoln, making a total of 2036 bells to describe.

Of these 2036 bells the fair proportion of 353, or about 17½ per cent., may be said to have been cast before the year 1600. This is a larger proportion of ancient bells than is found either in Leicestershire or Northamptonshire; the former county having only about 14¾ per cent., and the latter about 10½ per cent., of such bells remaining.

There are complete rings of ancient bells still hanging at thirty churches in this county: namely rings of four bells at Branston, and Hacconby; of three bells at Barnetby-le-Wold, Boothby Graffore, Bratoft, South Elkington, Holton-le-Clay, Horkstow, Immingham, Kirkby-cum-Osgodby, Lavington, Limber Magna, Manby, Ruskington, Sausthorpe, Scampton, Somerby near Brigg, South Somercotes, Tallington, Theddlethorpe S. Helen, Waith, and North Witham; and rings of two bells at West Allington, Canwick, Dunsby, Harpswell, Maltby-le-Marsh, Rowston, Saltfleetby S. Peter, and at Toynton S. Peter. About a score of the Churches now only possessing single bells have preserved ancient ones.

The Dedications and Legends of the 353 ancient bells may be thus classified:—

One (Linwood 2nd) is inscribed with what is meant for

IN NOMINE DEVS

Five are dedicated in the Holy Name of Jesus thus :—

IHESVS (Hacconby 4th).

HVIVS IHV XPI (Honington 2nd).

ihc nazarenus (Walesby 1st)

IN THE NAVME OF IHV SPED ME (Burwell 2nd).

HOC NOMEN IHESVS EST AMOR MEVS (Immingham 3rd.)

Thirteen in that of the Blessed Trinity: namely one (Swinstead 4th) inscribed :—

TRINITAE

one (Barnetby-le-Wold 3rd) :—

SCE TRINITAS VNVS DEVS

another (Kirkby-cum-Osgodby 3rd) :—

In Honore Sce Trinitatis

another, a double dedication (Killingholme 4th) :—

CAMPANA SANCTE TRINITATIS ET OMNIVM SANCTORVM

and nine (Burgh 5th, Hammeringham 2nd, Haxey 6th, Kirkby East 2nd, Lincoln S. Mark's single, Maltby-le-Marsh 1st, Ruskington 3rd, Somerby 3rd, and Little Steeping 3rd).

TRINITATE SACRA FIAT HEC CAMPANA BEATA

Seventy-two of these ancient bells are dedicated to, bear inscriptions relating to, or addressed to, the Blessed Virgin Mary in these forms :—

1. M
2. Maria
6. Sca Maria
6. I.H.S. Maria
1. Hbibs Be Maria
2. In Noie IHS. Maria
1. In Honore Be Maria
1. Vocor Maria
1. In amore Sca Maria
9. Abe Maria
10. Abe Maria gracia plena
2. Abe [Maria] gracia plena Dominus tecum
1. Ecce ancilla Domini
2. Maria mater gracie
1. Maria Mater Dei est nomen meum
2. Hec campana pie causa sit facta Marie
3. Hec pro laude pie resonat campana Marie
1. Maria Virgo assumpta est in celum
1. Virgo coronata duc nos ad regna beata
1. Pura pudica pia miseris miserere Maria
8. Sca Maria ora pro nobis
1. Mary of Hawardby of bs habe mercy
7. Sum rosa pulsata mundi Maria bocata
1. Nos cb prole pia bndicat Virgo Maria
1. (Theddlethorpe S. Helen's 1st) is unintelligible.

—

72

Nineteen bells are dedicated to the Archangel Gabriel, and six to the Archangel Michael, one is dedicated to

S. Anne the mother of the B. V. Mary, five to S. Andrew, one to S. Anthony, three to S. Augustine, one to S. Barbara, one to S. Benedict, two to S. Botolph, one to S. Clement, one to S. Cuthbert, one to S. Denis, two to S. Edmund, four to S. George, three to the Holy Innocents, three to S. James, fifteen to S. John (one being specially designated the Evangelist and two the Baptist), twelve to S. Katharine (a popular dedication), one to S. Laurence, one to S. Leonard, one to S. Luke, one to S. Mark, five to S. Margaret, four to S. Martin (on one of which the bell is described as "Sci Martini Epi"), three to S. Mary Magdalene (on two of which she is styled simply "Magdalene"), one to S. Matthew, four to S. Nicolas, one to S. Paul, fourteen to S. Peter, (one of which, the 2nd bell at Claxby S. Mary, has an unusual form of inscription), one to S. Thomas, one to S. Wilfrid, and three to All Saints, not including two bells—Canwick 1st, and Killingholme 4th—which have double dedications.

Eleven ancient bells in Lincolnshire are inscribed :—

Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum

and eight bear :—

Celorum xte placeat tibi rex sonus iste

Two (Corby 4th and South Willingham 2nd, the latter not quite complete) have the text :—

In noe ihu xpi ome genu flectat' celestiu terstriu t infroru

and two others (Fleet 5th and Irby-on-the-Humber 2nd) have the prayer :—

FILI DEI VIVI MISERERE NOBIS

The third bell at Thornton Curtis bears the beautiful and, I believe, unique inscription :—

O DEVS ABSOVE PARE FAC NOS TIBI DVLCE SONARE

and the single bell at Bracebridge quotes the last verse in the Psalter :—

OMNIS SPIRITVS LAVDET DOMINVM

Many of these 353 ancient bells bear English inscriptions: three have been already referred to, namely Alkborough 2nd :—

IESV FOR VI MODIR SAKE SAVE AL VE SAVLS THAT ME GART MAKE AMEN

Laceby 1st :—

MARY OF HAWARDBY OF VS HAVE MERCY

and Semperingham 1st :—

BE NOT OVER BUSIE

No less than twenty others are inscribed :—

IESVS BE OVR [or MY] SPEED

all of which (excepting East Barkwith 1st and Lavington 3rd) are dated.

The 4th at Moulton has :—

GOD SPEED VS WEL SAYTH THOMAS HILL

The 2nd at Newton, near Folkingham, says :—

HERE AND DRED GOD

On the single bell at Northope is the aspiration :—

SEND PASTORS PURE IN WORD AND LIFE

On three bells, all dated, is the loyal prayer :—

GOD SAVE OVR QVEEN

On five, also all dated :—

GOD SAVE HIS [or OVR] CHVRCH

and on two (Lincoln Cathedral tenor, and Ruskington 1st) we have the prayers for Church and Queen combined :—

GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH OVR QVEEN AND REALME

On two other of these old bells, both dated, we are exhorted to

PRAISE THE LORD

and on another (Hacconby 1st) to

FEARE GOD AND KEEPE HIS LAVE

On the 2nd bell at North Witham we have the encouraging aphorism :—

HOPE WEL HAVE W[E]L

on the tenor at Winteringham (the bell with the previous portion of the motto is now lost) :—

THAT EVIL THINKES

and the tenor at Silk Willoughby (apparently a late sixteenth century bell) calls upon all to

BE HOLD SE THE PIRSON WIFES ACT OF SILK WILOBE

On a large number (eighteen) of these ancient bells still remaining in Lincolnshire there is no inscription beyond the letter S repeated several times (probably for *Sanctus*) with an intervening cross.

On other eighteen bells there are founders' stamps only.

On nine there are portions of the alphabet.

On two (Grasby 1st and Saltfleetby S. Clement 2nd) appear the donors' names only. Donors' names appear on other bells, but not alone.

Upon six bells the date only (or the date and initials only) is given.

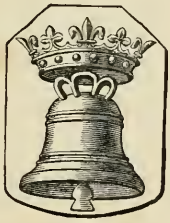
Upon four interesting bells the founders' names form the inscriptions.

On three others (South Ormsby 3rd, Pilham single, and Saxilby 3rd) are initials only.

And on other three (Stamford S. John Baptist 1st and 4th and Little Steeping 1st) appear the names of Parson, Churchwardens, or Benefactors.

Of the remaining ten ancient bells three (West Allington 1st, and the Priests' bells at Tallington and North Witham) are devoid of inscription or stamp of any kind: five (Bitchfield 2nd, South Ormsby 5th, Rowston 1st, Sedgebrook 3rd, and Syston 3rd) have imperfect inscriptions, and one is the highly curious bell hanging at the Town Hall, Lincoln.

The earliest dated bells in Lincolnshire are the fine pair at South Somercotes, cast in 1423.



THE LINCOLNSHIRE BELLFOUNDERS.

THE earliest casting of bells in Lincolnshire at present known to us occurred at

BOSTON

late in the eleventh century. After the great fire at Croyland Abbey in the year 1091 we read of

FERGUS THE COPPERSMITH of Botolph's Town presenting two small bells to that Abbey, which the monks placed within a "humble belfry" which they had erected as a substitute for the tower which had fallen down.* There is no evidence to show that Fergus cast large bells.

Four hundred years later we find two other founders at Boston.

JOHN RED and LEONARD PYNCHBECK, about whom I know nothing beyond their names as given in the Accounts of the Churchwardens of Leverton in this county thus:—

* *Ingulgph's Chron.* Bohn's Ed. p. 208.

1503. Itm̃ payd to John Red bellgedar of boston for schotyng of a bell ..... iij*li.* vj*s.* viij*d.*

1506. Itm̃ payd to lenard pynchbec of boston in payrt payment for hour belle gyddynge [yetting *i.e.* casting] ..... vij*li.* ix*s.*

There is neither documentary notice nor tradition to guide us to the site of any bellfoundry in Boston.* We know indeed that as early as 1489,† and until quite recently, there was a Lane called Bell Lane, but it was, as a friend writes to me, "such a mere *angiportus* through a little mass of houses under the Stump that I think if you saw the spot you would feel that the name originated in some tavern rather than in a foundry."

STAMFORD.

THE first Stamford bell-founder at present known is

TOBIAS (or TOBIE) NORRIS, who took up his freedom on the 4th of June, 1607. He was one of the "Capital Constables" in that year, and again in 1621-2, and warden

* Although a diligent search extending over several days has been made in the Will Office, Somerset House, and in the District Probate Registry at Lincoln, neither the wills of these two founders, nor those of Wilkinson of Lincoln, George Lee or Richard Sanders can be found. It may be noted that in an "Inventory of the goodes of the Crafte of ffounders of London at Cristmas in the yere of our Lord 1497" is "Item a grete maser harnessed with Silver gilte of the gifte of John Pynchbeck." *Annals of Founders' Company*, p. 44.

† *Thompson's Boston*, p. 129.

of S. George's church in 1613-14. His name also occurs in connection with charities belonging to S. George's parish in 1609. He died on the 2nd of November 1626, and was buried in the north aisle of S. George's Church, Stamford, where a small brass thus records the fact:—

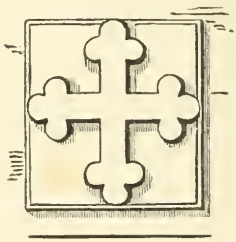
HERE LIETH THE BO
DY OF TOBIE NORRIS
BELFOVN : WHO DEC
EA : THE 2 OF NO 1626

and the Register of the parish says:—

1626 Tobye Norris Bell-founder was buryed the
iiij daye of November

His earliest bell in Lincolnshire appears to be the 3rd of the ring at Sutton S. James, dated 1603, and his latest the 2nd at Moulton, dated 1626. He did not always place his name as founder upon the bells from his foundry, but he used the several initial crosses figs. 1, 2, and 3, and for

1



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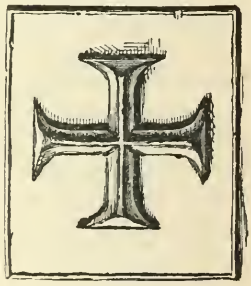
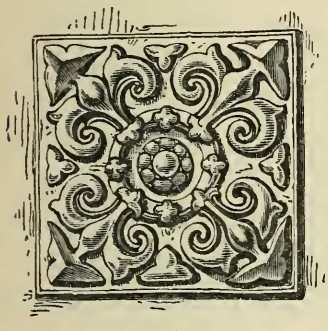


3

intervening stops, figs. 4, 5, and 6. Upon bells cast by him at Gosberton (3rd), Pinchbeck East (3rd), and Stamford S. Mary (7th), he placed the Royal Arms—of James I. on the two first mentioned bells and of Charles I. on the other—similar in style to the stamp (fig. 114) used occasionally by the Nottingham founders, and given further on. Another



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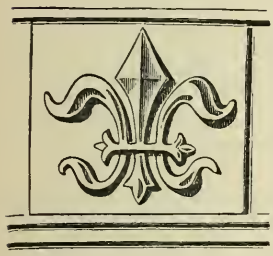

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6

Tobyas Norris, also a bellfounder (probably a son of the above Tobias), took up his freedom on the 4th of June, 1628, and we find his name as "Toby Norris of Staunford bellfounder" mentioned in a document relating to the church estate in 1638. He apparently occupied a subordinate position in the foundry.

Thomas Norris—who, upon the death of Tobias the elder, succeeded to the business—took up his freedom as a bellfounder on the 31st of December, 1625. He was warden of S. George's Church from 1630 to 1632, spelling his name as Norys and Norris. He was constable for the parish of S. George 9 and 10 Car. I.; elected a "capital burgess" (that is, a

member of the body corporate) on the 25th of September, 1638; Chamberlain in 1641-2; and Com-burgess (or, as would now be said, Alderman) on the 27th of January, 1652-3. He was also one of the "Conduit Masters" for several years. While he sat in the Council Chamber it is recorded of him that he was upon several occasions fined ij^{s} vj^{d} for non-attendance at meetings. In 1656-7 he served the office of chief magistrate as "Alderman"—the title of "Mayor" was not then adopted at Stamford—for his native town.* Besides being a member of the borough senate, Thomas Norris was also a useful parochial officer of S. George's parish, filling several offices of trust and consideration. At a meeting of the Hall, held on the 10th of May, 1663, it being agreed that the sum of £200 should be borrowed towards defraying the expenses of a new Charter from the King, Thomas Norris was one of the sureties.

His career in the Corporate Chamber was not always a pleasant one, for we find that at a Common Hall held on the 13th July, 1665, "Thomas Norris and Robert Whatton two of ye Aldermen" had notice "to appeare at ye next hall, and in the interim shall doe and p'forme their duty as is injoyned on ye rest of ye Aldermen, or others to be chosen in their place." The duty alluded to as being shirked, consisted in carrying out a previous order made by the

* During his tenure of office his apprentice William Saunders "because he hath served seven years apprenticeship in this Corporation is freely admitted to scott and lott." No further mention is found in the Corporation records of Wm. Saunders. It may be worth noting that at a meeting of the Council held 25th April, 1664, the Fee for taking up the Freedom of Stamford by a bellfounder was fixed at £15.

Hall, that in consequence of the plague raging very severely at Peterborough and adjacent places, a strict watch was to be kept day and night to prevent any person entering Stamford without a pass: and in order to see that the guard did their duty, one of the first company (Aldermen) was to be with the guard, one every night in his turn.

From some cause, not recorded in the municipal books, Thomas Norris appears, some years later, to have taken umbrage, for at a meeting of the Hall, held on the 29th of August, 1678, the following letter from him, resigning his seat, was read by the Mayor:—

> Mr Mayor
>
> I have not of late received soe much content and satisfaction in my residence in Stamford as formerly, so am resolved to retire myselfe amongst other my relations in ye countrey, soe y^t^ I shall not bee capacitated to doe ye Corporacon any further service, and am desirous to resigne up my office of Alderman, and my requests are y^t^ you will bee pleased to accquaint ye rest of ye brethren therew^th^, and accept of this my resignation, and although I cannot bee ffurther serviceable to ye Corporacon, yet I shall alwaise pray for ye p'spitye thereof, & am,
>
> Yo^r^ most humble serv^t^,
>
> Thomas Norris.
>
> Stamford Aug. ye 6, 1678.

The resignation was accepted, but to what place Thomas Norris retired is unknown: perhaps to Barrowden in Rutland, where, as the Registers show, a family of his name was living from 1610 to 1699.*

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* Edith the wife of Thomas Norris (according to the parish registers of S. George, Stamford) was buried 28th July, 1673.

Although there are many single bells in Lincolnshire cast by Thomas Norris, there is only one complete ring from his foundry—that of Algarkirk, cast in 1662. His bells date from 1628 at Burton Coggles (1st) and other churches, to 1674 at Croyland (1st). A bell of his hangs at Fakenham, Norfolk, dated 1678, the year when, according to the above letter, he resolved to leave Stamford. He used the same stamps as his predecessor, placing the Royal Arms on one bell only in this county—the 4th at Holbeach. His son and successor

Tobias Norris (who occasionally placed his own name upon bells during his father's life time as at Belleau (3rd) Haltham-on-Bain (1st and 2nd) and other places) was baptized at S. George's Church, Stamford, on the 25th of April, 1634. He was Overseer of the Highways in 1660-7, of the Poor 1678-9, and Churchwarden in 1685-6; his name also occurs in connection with parish charities in 1693. He was buried, as appears by the register of S. George's parish, on the 19th of January 1698-9. His bells in this county, of which there is no complete ring, range in date from 1664 at Haltham-on-Bain (1st and 2nd) to 1695 at Alford (5th), but he continued casting until his death. He occasionally used figs. 1 and 2, as initial crosses, and in two cases—Enderby Mavis 1st, and Tattershall 4th and 5th—a rude S. Andrew's cross, but frequently placed his name, as founder, without any cross or stamp.

The favourite inscriptions of the Norris family were "Mvlti vocati pavci electi"—"Cvm voco ad ecclesiam venite"—"Omnia fiant ad gloriam Dei"—and, occasionally,

on the tenor bell, as at Deeping S. James and at Swayfield, "Non sono animabvs mortvorvm sed avribus viventivm," which, as has been said, was perhaps "a fling" at the old faith.

Mr. Justin Simpson of Stamford, to whom I am indebted for much of the above information respecting the Stamford bellfounders, tells me that there is, unfortunately, no known record pointing out the precise site of the foundry, but that it is generally believed to have been in the vicinity of the present Gas Works, or of Mr. Blashfield's Terra-cotta Works.

Alexander Rigby appears to have been connected—perhaps as foreman—with the Stamford foundry for some years before the death of Tobias Norris in 1698-9, for at Great Billing in Northamptonshire the 1st bell there, cast by him, is dated as early as 1684. There are only four bells by Rigby, or as he sometimes spelt his name "Rigbe" in Lincolnshire, but those are sufficient to show that he carried on the foundry for a few years—until his own death—after the decease of the last Norris. Rigby's bells extend from 1704 at Deeping S. James (1st) and Swinestead (2nd) to 1707 at Kirkby Laythorpe (2nd and 3rd): upon the last mentioned bell he placed the initial cross fig. 3, used, as we have seen (see p. 52) by the Norris family. He died at Stamford in the year 1708, and was buried at S. Martin's as appears from the Register:—

1708 Alexander Rigby, bellfounder, bur. Octr. 29.

He is referred to, in a not very complimentary manner, on the treble bell at Badgworth, Gloucestershire:—

Badgworth ringers they were mad
Because Rigbe made me bad;
But Abel Rudhall you may see
Hath made me better than Rigbe.

At his death the Stamford foundry was closed.

LINCOLN.

THAT there was a Foundry at work here as early as 1641 is evident from the Churchwardens' Accounts of S. Mary's Barton-on-Humber for that year, in which is a minute record of the cost of taking a bell, drawn by six horses and two oxen, and attended by four men, to Lincoln for the purpose of being recast, but the name of the founder is not preserved.* A few years later—in 1676—

"HUMPHREY WILKINSON of Lincoln Bellfounder" entered into an engagement to cast the 3rd bell of Kirton-in-Lindsey, the Bond for the due performance of which is still extant. In 1689 the same founder was casting the new "Cutlers' Bell," by order of Robert Breilsforth, the Master of the Cutlers' Company in Sheffield. It is somewhat curious that his bells do not appear in Lincolnshire churches until the year 1695, when he sent the Priest's bell to Winthorpe: from that date until 1718, the date of the 1st bell at S. Peter-at-Gowts, Lincoln, recently recast, he sent a few bells to different churches in this county; in all

* Mr. R. Brown, jun., F.S.A., of Barton, very kindly made a diligent search for me amongst the parochial muniments, but without being able to discover any document giving this founder's name.

cases however--excepting Ingoldmells and Middle Rasen where are two—only single bells of his are hanging, showing that his business was a small one. He used a good bold trade mark, fig. 7,

7

which he appears to have copied from that used by Quernbie and Oldfield a century earlier.

BRIGG.

The Parish Register of Scotter records that the second bell there was new cast by "one

Richard Sanders of Brigg" on the 3rd of May, 1673. Unfortunately all the old Parish Records of Wrawby, of which parish Brigg was until recently a hamlet, were destroyed by fire some years ago; so nothing can be learned from them as to Sanders, who was, probably, not a regular bellfounder, but simply a blacksmith.

BARROW-ON-HUMBER
AND
BARTON-ON-HUMBER.

In the latter half of the seventeenth century there lived at Foulby, a hamlet in the parish of Wragby, near Pontefract, in Yorkshire, a carpenter named Henry Harrison, who had two sons, John and James, the former born in the year 1693, and the latter in 1697. About the last-named date the father moved with his family to Barrow-on-Humber, in this county, where he was parish clerk for thirty-one years. He died in June, 1728, leaving his two sons, John and James Harrison, in business as carpenters at Barrow. They were ingenious men, and set to work attempting to construct an instrument for determining the longitude at sea, for which a large reward (£20,000) was then offered by the Government. The instrument was, after several trials and improvements, completed, as is generally supposed, by John Harrison the elder brother, but the popular impression in their own neighbourhood was that James was the greater genius of the two, and that from his conception the time-keeper was modelled and completed, but that being the

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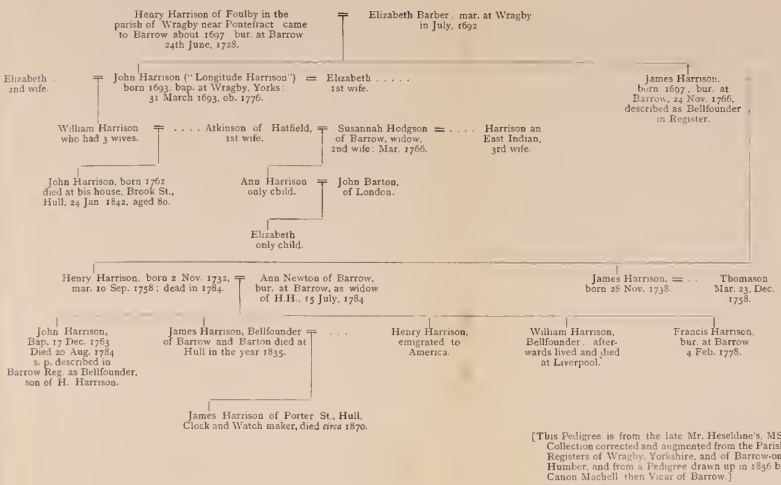
PEDIGREE OF THE HARRISON FAMILY,

BELLFOUNDERS.



[This Pedigree is from the late Mr. Heseldine's MS. Collection corrected and augmented from the Parish Registers of Wragby, Yorkshire, and of Barrow-on-Humber, and from a Pedigree drawn up in 1856 by Canon Machell then Vicar of Barrow.]

most careless and easy of the two in disposition and habits, he allowed his brother to take the instrument up to London, where, as was anticipated by their neighbours, he introduced it as his own sole invention, and obtained the full credit for it himself. However that may have been it is certain that John Harrison obtained all the renown, and, after much trouble, the promised reward; and that the only share James, or his family, received was the free grant to them of the house in which they resided at Barrow.* John Harrison died at his house in Red Lion Square, London, on the 24th of March, 1776, aged 83 years, and was buried in a vault on the north side of Hampstead Church.† His brother

James Harrison of Barrow erected the sun-dial still standing in Barrow churchyard and inscribed "James Harrison fecit 1732," and he was also a bellhanger about that date, as is shown by his name on several bellframes. He had two sons, Henry and James.

When the bellfoundry at Barrow was opened I cannot say, but that it was during the life-time of this James Harrison is evident from a letter addressed by him to the

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* This house was "on the left-handside as you enter Barrow, and which, having been sold by the family, is now the property of Mr. Smith Brewer."—*Lindsay Observer*, 15th June, 1854.

† The Rev. J. E. Cross, Vicar of Appleby, possesses a clock made by John Harrison: at the back of the case is pasted:—

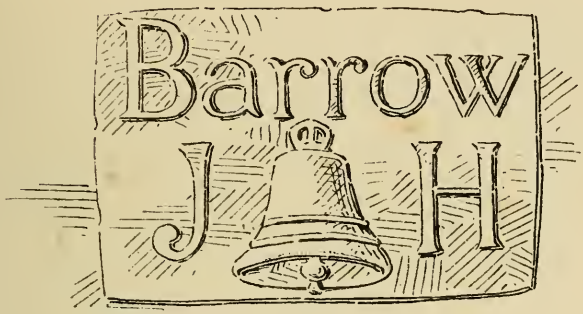
"A Table of the Sun rising & setting in the Latitude of Barrow 53 degrees 18 minutes; also of difference that should & will be betwixt ye Long pendillom & ye Sun if ye Clock go true

John Harrison."

Mr. Cross, who observes that Harrison has here got his latitude wrong, also possesses a portrait of him "Pub. as the Act directs 1 Aug. 1768."

Dean and Chapter of Lincoln, dated the 15th of July, 1763, wherein (offering his services to repair the Lady-bells) he describes himself as "Bellfounder at Barrow near Barton." At that time, or immediately after, his son Henry was working with him, as is shown by an entry in the Parish Register at Hibaldstow, in this county, from which we learn that the great bell there was recast at Barrow "by James Harrison and Henry his son, July 6, 1764." This bell bears the stamp No. 8 on *Plate I.* The same stamp is upon the 3rd bell at Wootton also dated 1764. James Harrison died in 1766, being buried at Barrow on the 24th of November in that year. The foundry then passed into the hands of his eldest son

Henry Harrison (the name of his other son—James—does not appear in connection with it). Henry Harrison was born on the 2nd November, 1732, and married Ann Newton of Barrow on the 10th of September, 1758. From documents still extant at Welton we find he cast the bells of that church in the year 1770, in which year he also cast the ring at Willoughby and the 3rd bell at Sibsey. His name appears on bells at West Keal cast in 1772, and at Redbourne cast in 1774. Four years prior to the last-mentioned date he had opened a foundry at Barton, having cast the Addlethorpe ring of six bells there in the year 1770, as their inscriptions testify. The date of Henry Harrison's death is unknown, but that event occurred prior to 1784, for on the 15th of July in that year Ann *the widow* of H. Harrison was buried at Barrow. Henry Harrison left five sons—John (baptized the 17th of December, 1763, died the



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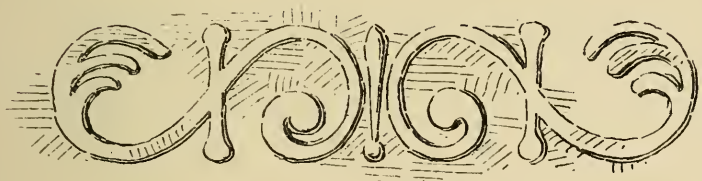

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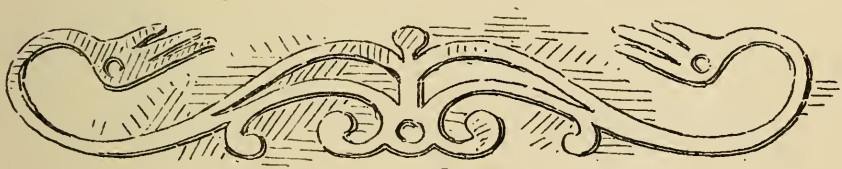

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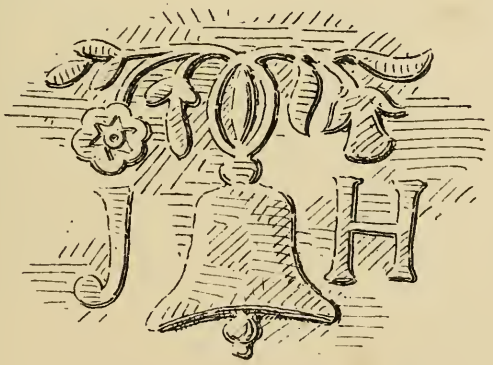

10

STAMPS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

Thomas Kell & Son, Photolith.
40, King Street, Covent Garden

20th of August, 1784, s. p.), James (his successor), Henry (who went to America), William (to be mentioned presently), and Francis (who died young, being buried the 4th of February, 1778). Although the name of

William Harrison of Barton appears as Founder upon bells at Burgh and at Six Hills: his connection with the craft was brief: he left Barton, and lived and died at Liverpool. The foundry, upon the death of their father, passed into the hands of his second son

James Harrison, who much extended the business. His name appears upon bells cast at Barrow (Saxilby 4th and Wootton 1st) in 1788 and 1789, but the foundry at Barton quickly, in his hands, superseded the original one at Barrow, which was on a very small scale. The Barrow foundry stood on Piking Green, near to Barrow Hall, the seat of G. C. Uppleby, Esq.: no part of it now remains. His Barton bells still hanging in this county, and numbering between seventy and eighty, date from 1789 (Claxby S. Mary 1st) to the year 1833 (Caistor 2nd and 3rd). Upon them is generally found his name, but upon the 3rd bell at Market Rasen), dated 1795, is the stamp fig. 10 on *Plate I.* He used several border ornaments between the words of the inscriptions, of which figs. 9 and 9*a* on *Plate I.* are specimens.

In 1816, in 1818, and again in 1828, James Harrison wrote very long letters to the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln (and which are now amongst the Cathedral Records) respecting the then contemplated recasting of the bells.

His business as a founder extended beyond his native

county. Major George Anderson, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, having, in 1831, left £500 to provide a large clock-bell for the church of S. Nicolas in that town, Harrison was selected as the founder. He cast the bell (now called "The Major" from the donor) in the month of November, 1833, at the foundry of Sir R. S. Hawks and Co., of Gateshead. It is a large bell weighing 8021 lbs., five feet in height, and six feet nine inches in diameter at its mouth. When cast it gave so much satisfaction that upon its arrival at Newcastle, being turned upside down, Harrison —so runs the story—was placed in it, and so taken round the town. This admiration must have been excited by its appearance only, for Harrison having tried the experiment of mixing brass with bell-metal produced a very indifferent bell indeed. The tenor of the old ring, which is not nearly so large, can, it is said, be heard at twice the distance. Local historians tell of the large number of persons that could stand in their clock bell, and that whilst in the porch of S. Nicolas, awaiting its rise to the belfry, a shoemaker made the greater part of a shoe in it, even as, in 1793, when the spire of Chester-le-Street was rebuilt, a not less ambitious son of Crispin made, or mended, a pair of shoes on the topmost stone; taking care, however, to do his work before his seat was raised to its intended eminence; a precaution not always disclosed to his audience by the teller of the story.

James Harrison had a great reputation amongst his own townspeople, strengthened, no doubt, by his connection by descent with the inventors of the time-keeper, and many of

his characteristics are still preserved by the old people of Barton. They say he was a sober and industrious man of small education, very lax in his religious opinions, and eccentric in his habits. He formed no acquaintances, his mind being so absorbed in his craft that his talk was always of the casting, tuning and ringing of bells. He is said to have made no money by his trade, spending a long time in making his calculations before casting a bell, which if not proving exactly to his mind when cast he would break up and commence again. His calculations were—so it is said—chiefly made in a bed which he had fixed up in his foundry: there he would remain for several days (food being taken to him) until his mental calculations (he seldom used figures) were completed to his satisfaction, when jumping up with the exclamation "I have got it, I have got it," would proceed to put his plans into execution. He cast his bells in cellars several feet below the road level, and old people say that he cast them in the dead of the night because any sound, such as the braying of an ass, or the crowing of a cock, would be communicated to the bell as the metal set! Indeed both he and his grandfather of the same name were suspected of dabbling in the mysteries of astrology before making important castings. An old gentleman, now living, once asked the son of this James Harrison then (1866) living at Hull whether his father or grandfather consulted the stars or had any practice of that kind before the operation of casting? He answered indefinitely, but added "*I* don't believe in astrology. It's all nought. I believe in astronomy though."

The point in his trade upon which James Harrison laid the greatest stress, and the correctness of which he laboured all his life to prove, was that all bells had not only much more metal in them than was necessary, but that their tone would be considerably improved by a less lavish, but a proper, use of it. Writing, in 1821, to the churchwardens of Appleby, who were then thinking of having their bells recast, he gives an estimate

> "to form a new and complete peal of six harmonious bells, to be cast with all the advantages of modern improvements (the results of upwards of twenty years pertinacious researches and experiments) whereby the metal is so disposed of as to produce a perfect concordance throughout all the parts of the bells, and consequently affords the softest and sweetest tones, at the same time that the more extended range or greater freedom of the vibrations occasioning more flowing sounds, they are heard further than the generality of bells with a *minimum* weight of metal."

The bells of Epworth—six in number, cast without canons, which he always knocked off old bells when he had the opportunity—may be quoted as a ring cast by Harrison on his own principle: they are very wide and thin at the mouth, but they are pronounced by competent judges to be far inferior to the ring of the same number at Haxey, which were cast on the old plan. In 1831 he published a Treatise on the *Proportions of the Constituents of Bells, &c.*, also an *Introduction* to the same, with a verbose title of about thirty lines in length.*

* Hull: Printed by William Stephenson, Bowlalley Lane. 1831.

Upon the death of James Harrison, which took place at Hull while he was visiting his son there, in the year 1835, the foundry at Barton was closed and the premises sold.

The Barton foundry stood on the west side of the Brigg Road, near to the Market Place: it was purchased, upon the death of Harrison, by Mr. Jervis Watson, a wheelwright, who took down the foundry, and erected a house and wheelwright's shop on the site: some of the cellars in which Harrison cast his bells still remain under the modern premises.

James Harrison had, as just mentioned, a son also named James, who resided in Porter Street, Hull. He was a clock and watch maker: he died, at an advanced age, a few years ago.*

GRANTHAM.

The name of

J. T. Barston appears upon two bells—Digby 1st, dated 1822, and Silk Willoughby 1st, dated 1825—but he was an ironmonger, and not a bellfounder.

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* Mr. R. Chapman of Barton has taken much trouble to supply me with many facts connected with the Harrisons.

OTHER FOUNDERS

OF

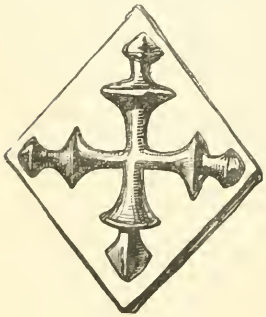
LINCOLNSHIRE BELLS.

IN addition to the Bells already enumerated as cast by the Lincolnshire Founders, there are, of course, a goodly number in the County by other Founders, known and unknown, ancient and modern.

The ancient bells first claim attention, and then notes upon the founders of a more recent date will follow.

WILLIAM FFOUNDER. The stamps figs. 11 and 12 on *Plate II.* are found upon the 2nd bell at Grimoldy, the 3rd at Partney, and the single bell at Skegness, where, however, the cross is of a larger size (fig. 14).

Again, the shield fig. 11 is on the 3rd bell at South Ormsby in company with a stamp which is, to me, undecypherable: it is also on the 1st bell at Sutton-le-Marsh (where the inscription is in irregular black letter with very small capitals, unlike those on the other bells with this stamp), in conjunction with the shield fig. 13, and the initial cross fig. 18 here engraved.



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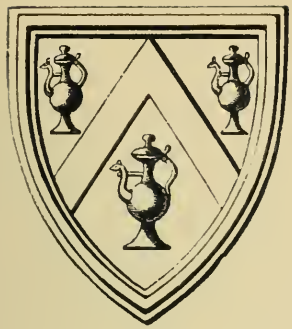

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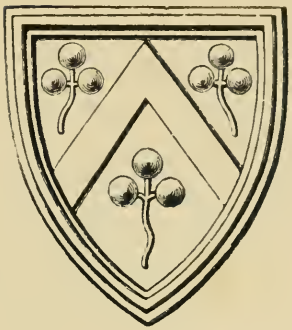

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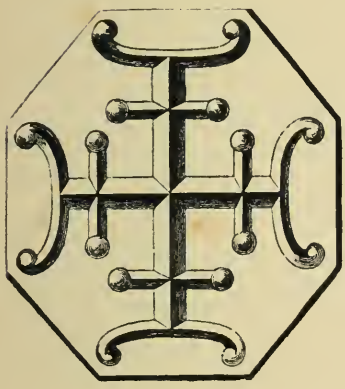

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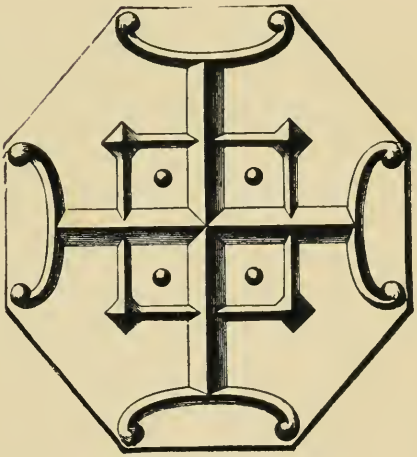

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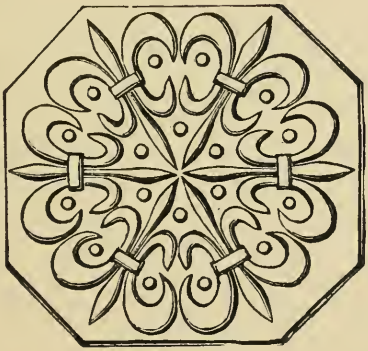

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17

STAMPS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

It occurs once more on the 4th bell at South Ormsby with the initial cross fig. 15 on *Plate II.*

The cross fig. 12 is also on the 3rd bell at Osbournby with the handsome cross fig. 16 on the same *Plate.*

The initial cross fig. 15 also occurs on two other bells (Tallington 3rd and Wrawby 2nd) accompanied in both instances by another cross fig. 17 also engraved on the same *Plate.*

These stamps (figs. 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17) were possibly used by William Underhill, *alias* William ffounder, a mediæval craftsman, whose trade marks are well-known to campanists. It appears probable that some of these stamps—for instance figs. 15 and 17—were in the hands of a founder in Kent, from whom they passed into those of a founder or founders at Reading. Upon the Tallington bell (as upon bells elsewhere) are the initials I. S. with a coin between them: those letters may be the initials of John Saunders, who was casting bells at Reading between the years 1539 and 1559.*

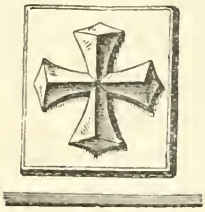
Robert Merston. In four churches near together—North Cockerington 2nd, Maltby-le-Marsh 1st and 2nd, Skendleby 3rd, and Little Steeping 3rd—are bells bearing the founder's seal-like stamp fig. 19 on the next page. Of Robert Merston nothing at present is known. He probably was an itinerant founder, who setting up his furnace at, or in the neighbourhood of, Alford, cast bells for any churches

* See Tyssen's *Church Bells of Sussex* and North's *Church Bells of Northants*, pp. 67-8.

19

in that locality requiring a bell-founder's skill. Until the year 1875, when they were recast, there were two of his bells hanging at Trusthorpe, another village in the neighbourhood of Alford. His inscriptions are in black letter, with capitals, both of a poor character.

Symon de Hazfelde. The small Sanctus bell at Sutterton bears the name of this founder with the initial cross fig. 20. The only other bell by the same founder known to me is the 1st at Stanwick, Northamptonshire, bearing a similar inscription to, and in the same form of Gothic capital letters as, this Lincolnshire bell, but in that instance preceded by the singular cross fig. 21. here engraved.



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21

John Potter. The 3rd bell at West Halton has the inscription :—

+ IHC : CAMPANA : BEATE : MARIE : IOHANNES : POTTER : ME FECIT

the initial cross and intervening stop being figs. 22 and 23, both which are also on the 4th bell at Killingholme by the same founder: a bell bearing his name, and the same inscription as that on the West Halton bell is at Holy Trinity, York. Although I have not met with any certain guide as to the locality of John Potter's foundry, it was probably at Norwich, for "Thomas Potter, Brazyer," who was also a Bellfounder, was admitted to the freedom of that City in the year 1404. The tenor bell at S. John Sepulchre, Norwich, was cast by him.*

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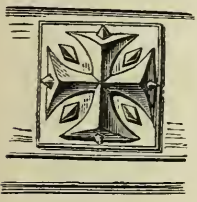
In connection with the probability of John Potter being a Norwich founder it is a matter of interest that the Patron of the benefice of West Halton is the Bishop of Norwich.

Johannes Sleyht cast the single bell at North Elkington upon which he fixed his name preceded by the cross fig. 24: a fleur-de-lys being the intervening stop. I found a bell by this founder, with the same cross and stop, at Glapthorne, Northamptonshire, where he spells his name "Sleyt:" another of his bells formerly hung at Owston in Leicestershire.†



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* *Church Bells of Norfolk*, p. 25-6. † North's *Church Bells of Northants*, p. 58.

He used a small neat gothic capital letter for the inscription of his name.

Vilelmvs Dvddelai. The single bell at Well bears an inscription showing it to have been cast by a founder named William Dudley. The inscription—in small pretty gothic capitals—is preceded by the elegant little cross fig. 25; the words are divided by the equally well formed fleur-de-lys fig. 26. This is the first bell by this founder (about whom nothing is known at present) that has been recorded.

25

26

John. There is a curious little Sanctus bell at Bicker inscribed:—

IOH : ME : FECIT : A

that is, "John cast me." It has no initial cross or other stamp. It is quite probable, judging from the form of letters used, that this bell was cast by Master John, a founder of bells at Lynn, Norfolk, in 1299. He is described in a Tallage Roll of that year as "Mag'r Joh'nes fundator campanar'."*

Early London Founders (Supposed). The shield fig. 27 occurs thrice on the 1st bell at Covenham S. Mary. The same shield in company with another shield fig. 29 and the beautiful cross fig. 28—all engraved on the annexed *Plate III*—is upon bells at Cowbit (2nd), South Elkington

* *Church Bells of Norfolk*, p. 22.

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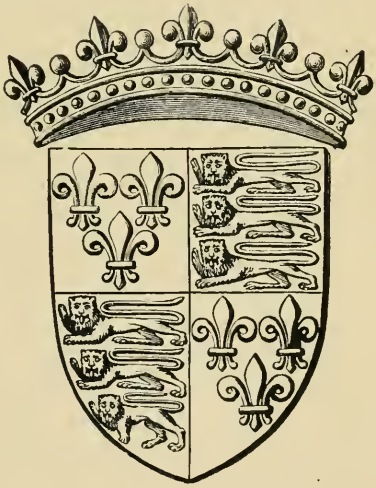

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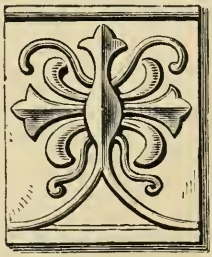


33

STAMPS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

(all 3), Frieston (4th), Harpswell (1st and 2nd), Scotton (2nd), Thorpe S. Peter (1st and 2nd), Thurlby near Newark (1st), and Welton-le-Wolds (1st and 2nd).

The short ejaculatory prayers on the cross fig. 28 are frequently found on mediæval ecclesiastical work: a variation of them occurs on the brass of William Browne and his wife in All Saints' Church, Stamford: over his head on a scroll are the words "X me spede" (Christ me speed), and over her's a similar scroll, with the prayer "Dere lady help at nede."

The cross, fig. 28, occurs again in company with fig. 33, and the Royal Arms ensigned with a crown fig. 30 (both on the annexed *Plate*) on bells at Alvingham (2nd and 3rd), Croyland (5th), Grainthorpe (1st and 2nd), and North Thoresby (3rd). The same shield with fig. 33 only is also on the 2nd bell at Tealby.

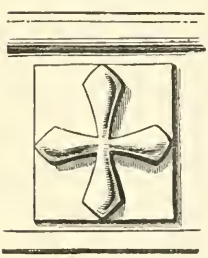
With regard to this stamp of the shield of the Royal Arms it may be observed that the date of the foundry originally using it must have been subsequently to the commencement of the fifteenth century when Henry IV., in 1406 according to Willement (*Royal Heraldry* p. 32), or Henry V., in 1413, according to Boutell (p. 296) substituted three fleurs-de-lys in the 1st and 4th quarters of his coat for a semèe of fleurs-de-lys previously borne.

The same shield without the crown (fig. 32 on *Plate III.*) is upon the 3rd bell at Kettlethorpe, and the 2nd at Torksey, in company with the cross fig. 28 and the stamp fig. 33, both referred to above.

In connection with these stamps we find the initial cross

fig. 31 on the annexed *Plate*, which is alone on the 2nd and 3rd bells at Great Ponton, on the 1st and 2nd bells at Bratoft in company with the two shields figs. 27 and 29; on the 1st at Nettleton with the stamps figs. 32 and 33; and on the 1st bell at Torksey with fig. 32, which is there placed between the letters I ▽ D, perhaps the initials of the founder. He used a fine bold black letter with crowned capitals on some of his bells, on others a rather smaller black letter: drawings of the first set, from the pencil of the Rev. J. T. Fowler, F.S.A., as they appear on the 2nd bell at Thorpe S. Peter, are given on *Plate IV*.

The little initial cross fig. 34, here engraved, is only on one bell in Lincolnshire—the school bell at Wainfleet All Saints. This, and the seven stamps just referred to, being found in all parts of the country, are supposed, from that circumstance, to have belonged originally to a London founder. That London founders were employed to cast bells for Lincolnshire we know (if we may trust his Chronicle in this matter) from Ingulph, who tells that Abbot John Lytlington caused "five fine and choice bells to be cast in London" for Croyland Abbey in the year 1465.



34

It is worth noting that the beautiful cross fig. 28 was subsequently in the hands of the Leicester founders.*

Ancient Unknown Founders. The 2nd bell at Salt-

* See *Church Bells of Northants*, p. 64.

fleetby S. Peter was cast by a founder whose stamps figs. 35 and 38 on annexed *Plate No. V.* have not at present been found elsewhere: the first—a trade mark consisting of a shield bearing the letter W, over which is a tun, and above the shield a plain cross terminating in a cross pattée having a bell hanging from its sinister arm—is used in the place of an initial cross: the stop between the words is a kind of five-leaved rose.

The elaborate stamps figs. 37 and 39 occur as initial cross and stop upon two bells only in this county—the 3rd at Immingham and the 3rd at Whitton: upon the former the Holy Name is ensigned by the running pattern fig. 36, which is used to represent a crown. These are fine mediæval bells, tall and thick.

The 2nd bell at Normanby-by-Spital has the initials E I—probably those of the founder—and the date 1571, but no stamp or trade mark of any kind.

The cross fig. 40, see *Plate No. VI.*, is upon two ancient bells in this county—the 1st at Ingoldsby and the single one at Keddington.

The stamp there figured No. 42 is repeated eleven times in lieu of inscription on the 3rd bell at Sausthorpe; and upon the 1st at Market Stainton it is given seven times alternately with the letter M—the initial of the name of the Blessed Virgin.

The inscription, in coarse gothic capitals, on the single bell at Enderby Bag, and on the 2nd bell at Laceby, are preceded by the initial cross fig. 41. As the church at Enderby is known to have been built by Albini de Enderby

who died in 1407, the bell there was probably cast about the year 1400.

On the 4th bell at Springthorpe are the four stops figs. 43, 44, 45, and 50—two being the letter S. The stop fig. 45 is also on the 2nd bell at Laceby in company with the initial cross fig. 41, to which reference has just been made.

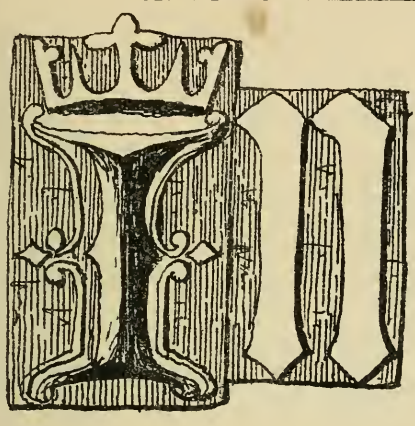
There are five interesting bells all with inscriptions in the same gothic letters, and all bearing the same initial cross fig. 47, namely, Heapham 1st, Saltfleetby S. Clement 2nd and 3rd, and Scampton 1st and 2nd: they all (excepting Saltfleetby 3rd, where the stop is simply composed of three dots) bear a fleur-de-lys, fig. 48, as a stop between each word, and the inscriptions on the Heapham bell, and on the 2nd at Scampton, are terminated by the trade mark fig. 46.

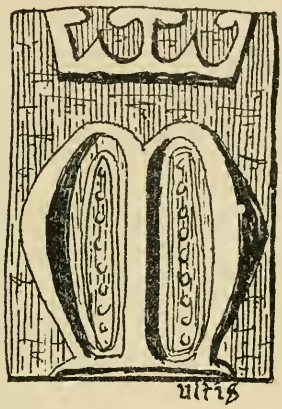
The curious "Ave Maria" bell at Hatcliffe has the initial cross fig. 51 and the singular stop fig. 53 (see *Plate VII.*) between the first six letters of the inscription: these stamps are not found elsewhere in the county.

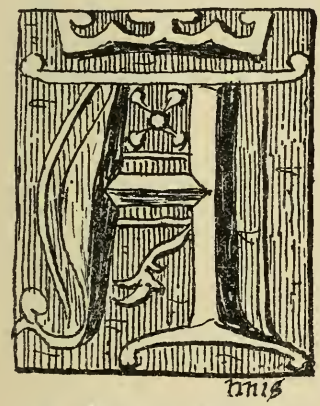
The little cross fig. 52 which is found once in this county only—on the single bell at S. Mary Magdalene, Lincoln—is valuable as enabling us to fix an approximate date to the bell. Two bells with the same cross still hang in Northamptonshire: on one of them—the Priest's bell at Harringworth—is the inscription:—

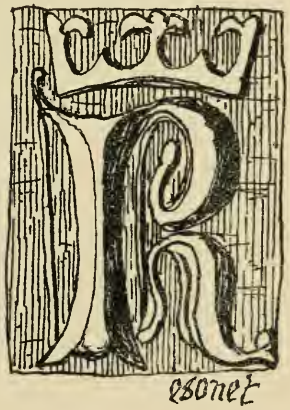
+ PHILIPPS : EPC : LINCOLN :
SPES : MEA : IN : DEO : EST

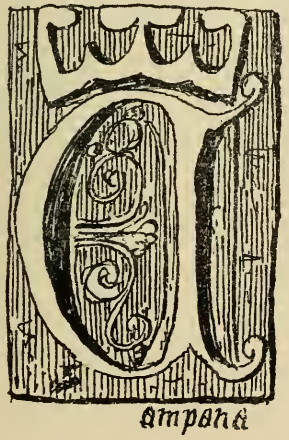
which indicates that the bell was the gift of Philip de











Johannis

LETTERS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

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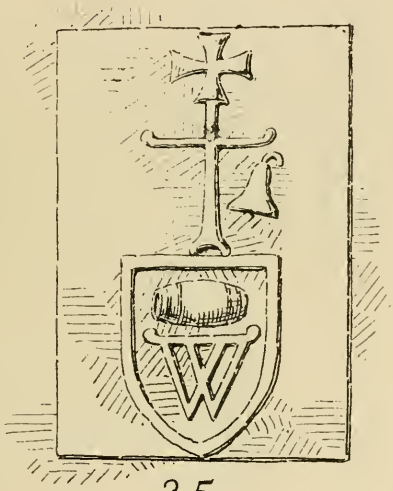

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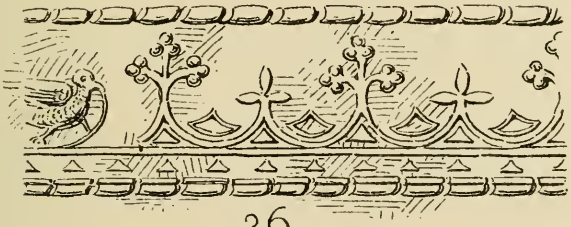

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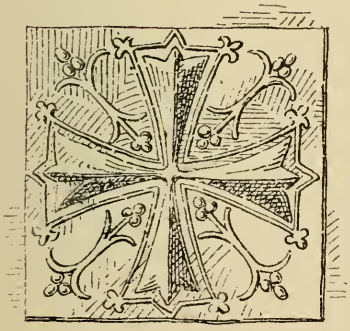

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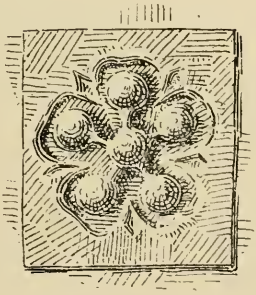

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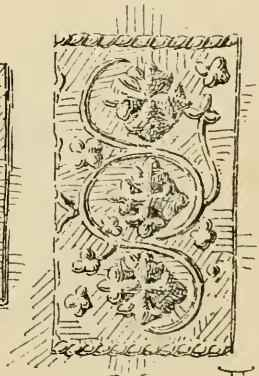

39

STAMPS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

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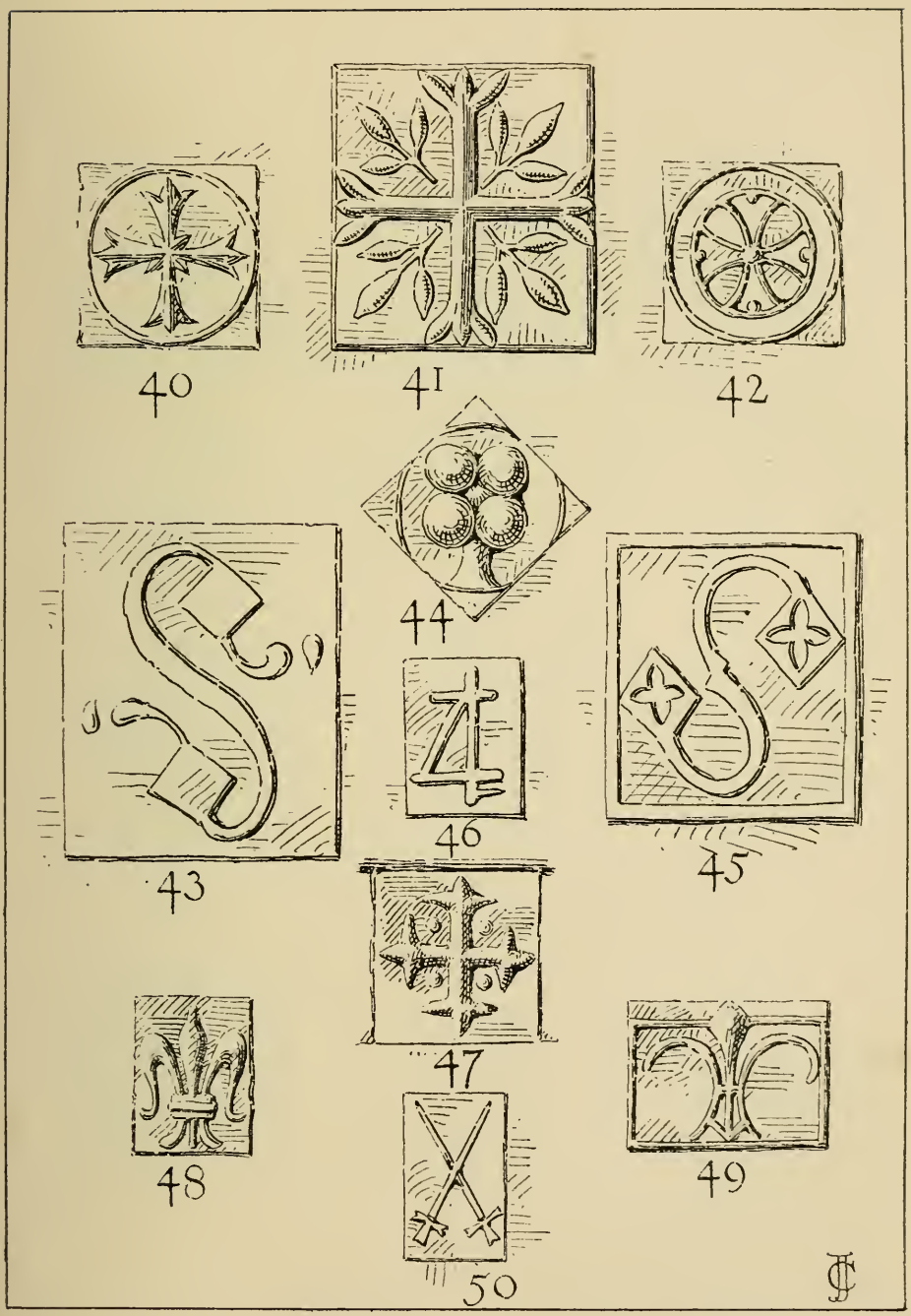

STAMPS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

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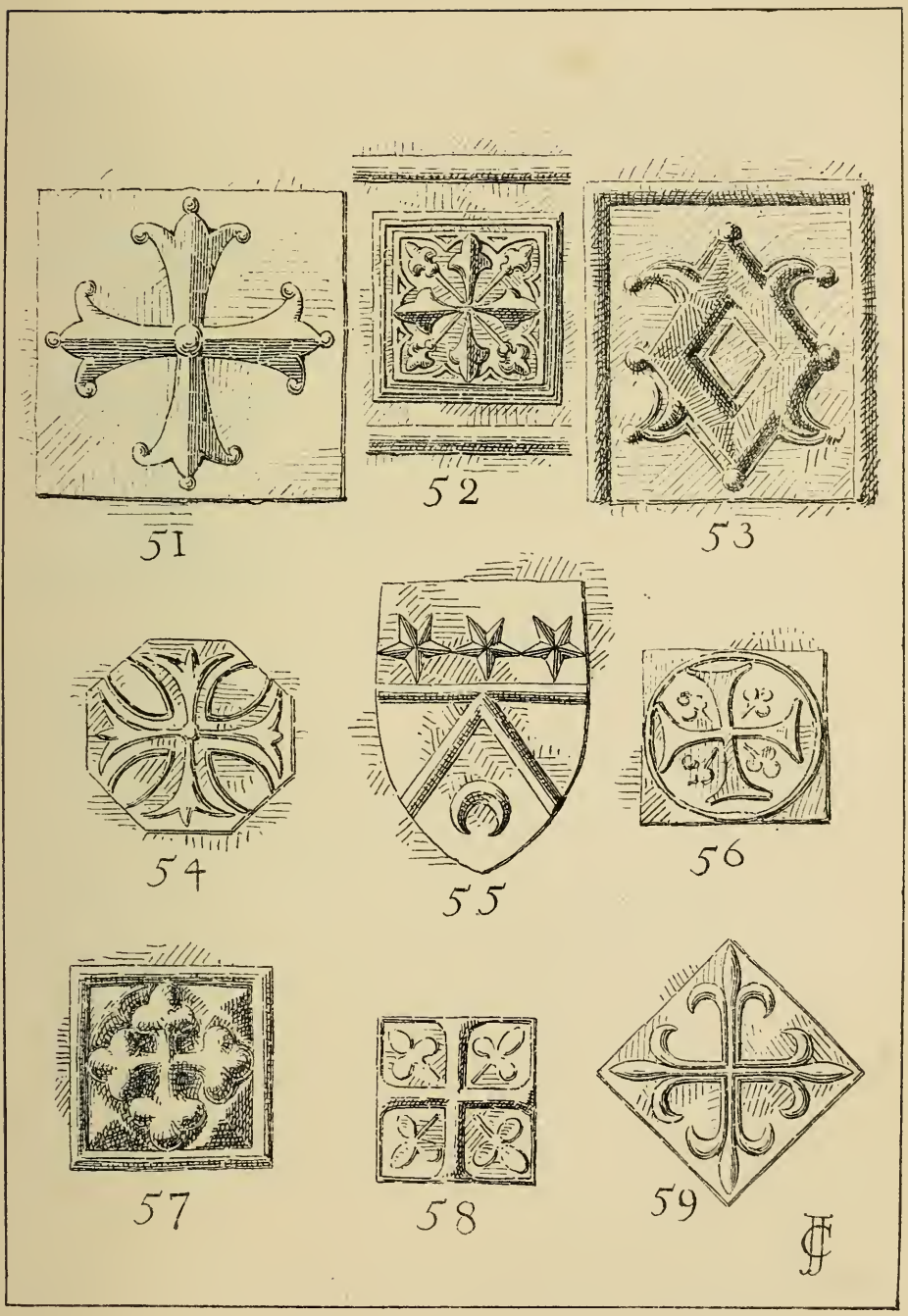
40, King Street, Covent Garden.



STAMPS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

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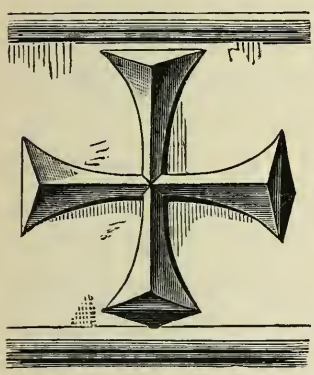
Repingdon, Bishop of Lincoln, 1405-1420: that inscription enables us to give a definite date to that bell, and so an approximate date to any ancient bell on which the same initial cross occurs.



60

The initial cross fig. 60 here engraved, which is upon two modern bells at Gayton-le-Marsh (2nd and 3rd), and upon a rather older bell at Tealby (3rd) with inscriptions in Roman capitals, is similar in form to a cross found upon some much more ancient bells in Northamptonshire.

On the 3rd bell at Swinderby occurs the initial cross fig. 58 on *Plate VII.*; and on the single bell at Rigsby (where the inscription is in black letter without capitals) is the cross fig. 56.

The two ancient bells at Sausthorpe (1st and 2nd), with inscriptions in Gothic capitals, bear the initial cross fig. 54, and the 2nd at Grayingham the one fig. 57.

There are two bells at Mumby (2nd and 3rd), with inscriptions in black letter with crowned capitals, preceded by the cross fig. 59, and followed by the cross fig. 15 (see p. 69) and the shield fig. 55. These stamps are found upon bells in Cambridgeshire. "I take" (says Dr. Raven in his *Church Bells of Cambridgeshire*) "the moon and the stars on the shield to indicate worker in silver and other metals." The bells of this founder are well cast.

The 1st bell at Bonby has the shield fig. 65 on *Plate VIII.* in company with the initial cross fig. 64, which cross is also on the 2nd bell at Rothwell, and on the 2nd and 3rd at Horkstow where the intervening stop is the elegant S like fig. 67. The shield (fig. 65) is found in Yorkshire and Durham: at Kirkby Fleetham in the former county the name RICHARD PETTE is placed on the crown of the bell, and may possibly be that of the founder.*

Upon the 3rd bell at Covenham S. Bartholomew, and upon the 2nd at Fiskerton are the stamps (no inscriptions) figs. 62, 61, and 69; and on the single bell at Sturton Magna are two of them only—figs. 62 and 69. On the first bell at North Somercotes is (in addition to figs. 61 and 69) the stamp fig. 63, and on the 2nd at Rand—both "*Ave Maria*" bells—is the fig. 69 only, where the letters are as shown in figs. 70 and 71 and 71*a*.

The spread eagle (fig. 69) is found on bells in Dorset, Somerset, and Wilts.

There are nine old bells, in churches near to each other, bearing the initial cross fig. 66, viz., Bratoft 3rd, North Cockerington 1st, Hundleby 1st, Orby 3rd, Wispington 3rd, South Ormsby 5th, Theddlethorpe S. Helen 2nd and 3rd, and Enderby Wood single; the first five also have the founder's trade mark fig. 68, bearing, apparently, his initials, rather rudely cut. Of him nothing is at present known: the finding of his bells near together leads to the inference that he was an itinerant founder, who, setting up

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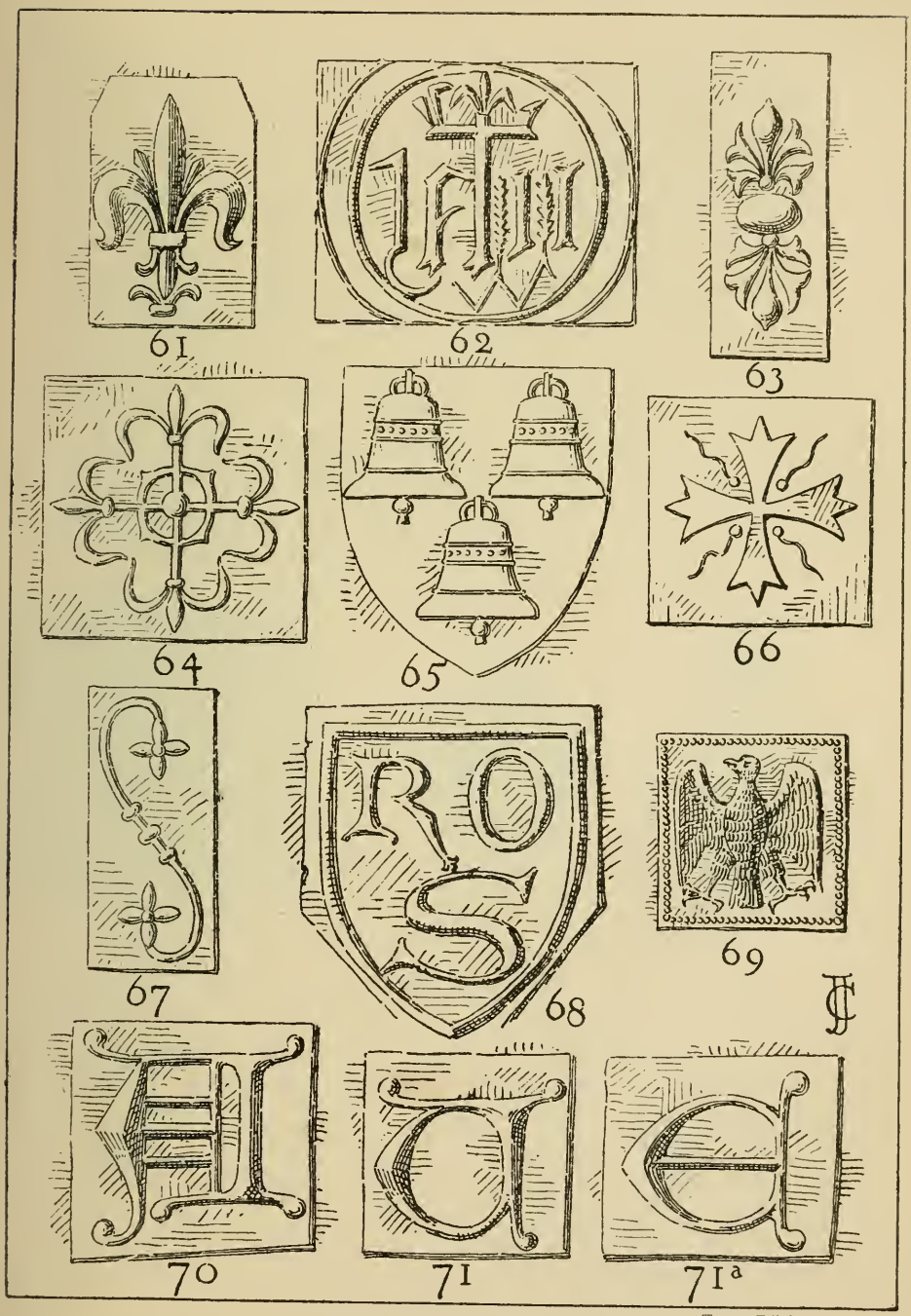
* *Gent. Mag.* September, 1865.



STAMPS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

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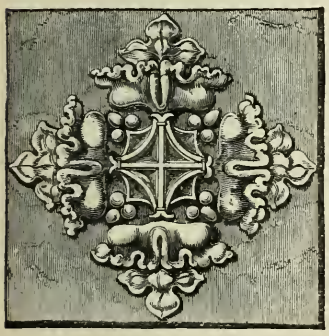
his furnace in a central spot, did what business he could in the neighbourhood, and so the expense and trouble of sending bells a long distance to a foundry, in days when roads were sometimes well nigh impassable, were avoided. The inscriptions are in small black letter of a poor character, with capitals.

There are eleven bells from the same foundry in which are included some of the most interesting, as certainly the most ornate, specimens of the bellfounder's art in Lincolnshire. Two are the early dated ones at South Somercotes (2nd and 3rd) cast in the year 1423. Both these bear inscriptions in the fine gothic capitals which are engraved on the opposite *Plates IX., X., XI., and XII.**

These inscriptions are preceded by the beautiful decorated



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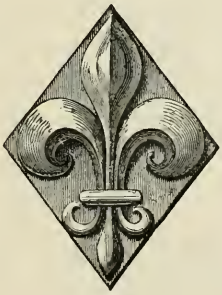


76

77

* The moulds and casts of these letters and stamps, and of the letters engraved on *Plate XIII.*, were made by J. R. Daniel-Tyssen, Esq., F.S.A., which casts were engraved by the late Mr. Orlando Jewitt for W. A. Tyssen-Amherst, Esq., F.S.A., M.P., of Didlington Hall, Norfolk, by whose courteous permission they appear in this volume.

gothic cross fig. 75 here engraved, the words on the first of the two bells being separated by the fleur-de-lys fig. 76 and by the pretty stop fig. 77 on the preceding page; those on the other bell by the fleur-de-lys only: at the end of the inscription on each bell is scratched the trade mark fig. 78 here engraved, one-fourth the size of original.

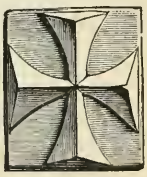
78

The same initial cross fig. 75, and the fleur-de-lys fig. 76, are upon the 2nd bell at Toynton S. Peter, where the inscription is in the same grand capitals.

The same initial cross is also upon the 3rd bell at Hainton, and upon the two bells at Somersby, where, however, a small black letter is used for the inscriptions, but with capitals from the ornate set used at South Somercotes.

Another pair of singularly interesting bells cast by the same founder eight years after those at South Somercotes still remain at Somerby near Brigg—the 1st and 3rd. They each have a double inscription—one giving the name of the donor, the other the dedication of the bell. The first inscription on each bell is preceded by the stop fig. 78*a*, which is fig. 77 shortened one half, and so showing two roses only, and terminated by the trade mark fig. 78 as on the South Somercotes bells. The second inscription on each bell is preceded by the initial cross fig. 79 here engraved. The gothic letters of these inscriptions are of a smaller character than those at South Somercotes, as is shown by the engravings of them as given

78*a*



79

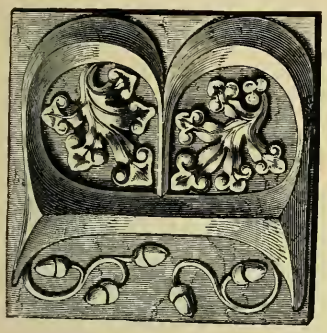


Fig. 72.

STAMP AND LETTERS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

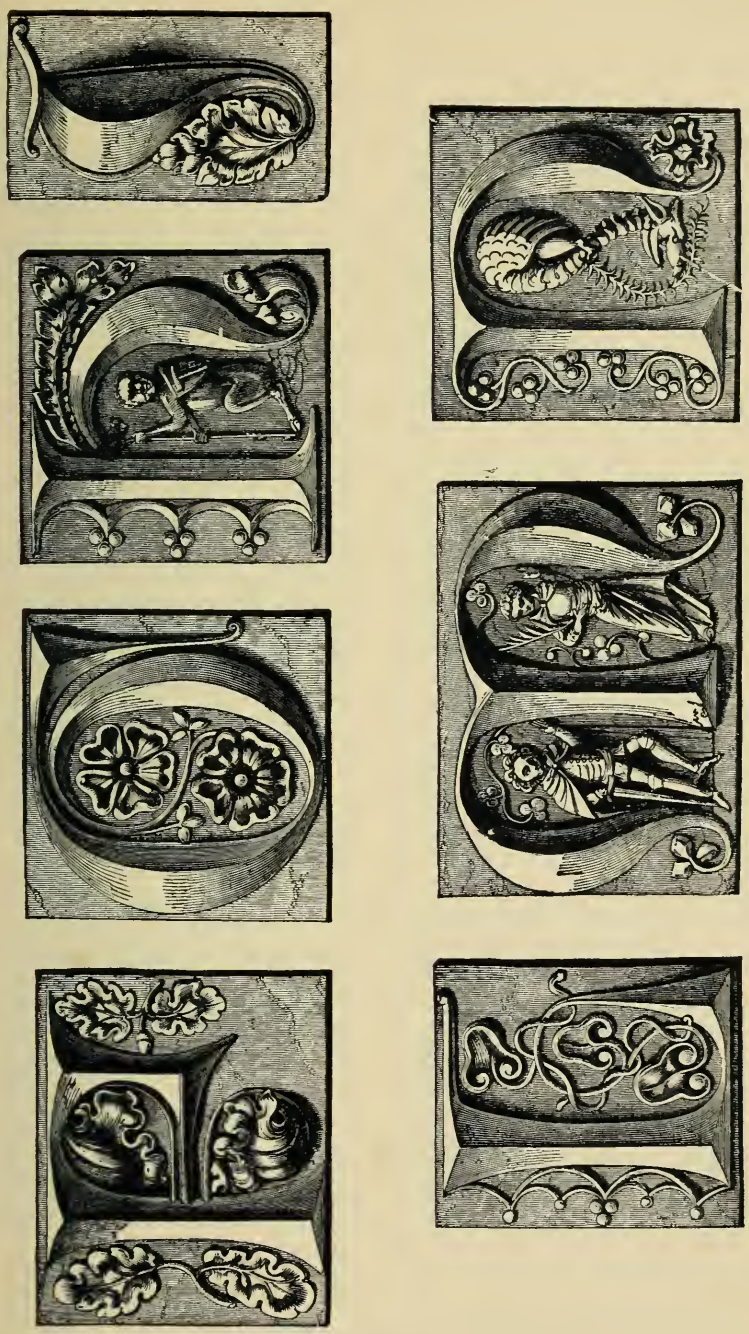


Fig. 72a.

LETTERS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

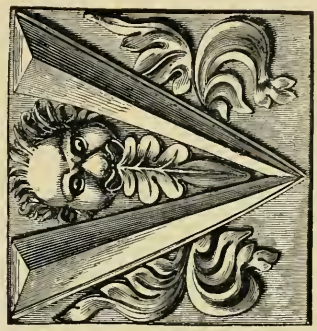


Fig. 73.

LETTERS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

Fig. 74.

Fig. 74a.

LETTERS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

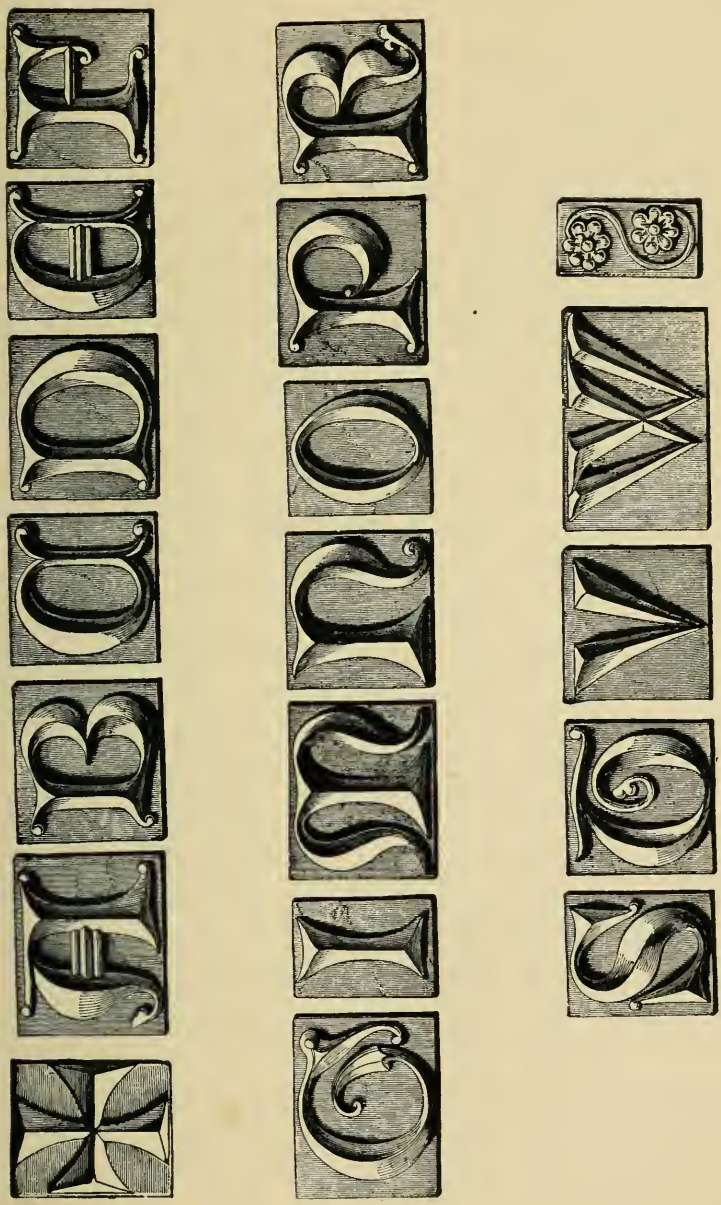


Fig. 74b.

STAMPS AND LETTERS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

on *Plate XIII.*, the initial letters being, however, of the larger and more ornate kind, as is shown by the specimen word MARIE fig. 74*a*, on *Plate XII.* An inscription with the same letters (fig. 74*a*) is upon the 2nd bell at Hammeringham preceded by the cross fig. 75.

Again there are two other curious bells from this foundry —Beesby 3rd and Gunby S. Peter 2nd. The inscriptions, which in both cases are in the small gothic capitals all of one size shown on *Plate XIII.*, are preceded by the initial cross fig. 79.

These two bells are, I think, a few years later in date than the other nine bells just described, for the founder not only does not use his ornate large initial capitals, but has broken them up, and uses scraps of them as intervening stops: thus we have on these two bells, in addition to the fleur-de-lys fig. 76, the nondescript from the letter T, the mitred head from the letter O, the lion from the letter C, the mask from the letter V, and a sprig of trefoil from the letter L of the fine capitals used at South Somercotes and engraved on *Plates IX.—XII.* With this description it is unnecessary to engrave these stops.

These eleven bells, all from the same foundry, are undoubtedly, with reference especially to their known dates and their ornamentation, the most interesting group yet illustrated in England.

The initial cross fig. 79 (just mentioned), or a cross exactly the same in form, occurs upon the single bell at Goulceby, and upon the 2nd at Gunby S. Nicolas. The

lettering—gothic capitals—is, however, different from that at Beesby and Somerby.

In addition to the old bells already mentioned there are many others to which reference will be made in the notes upon the founders of the more modern bells, to whom we must now give attention.

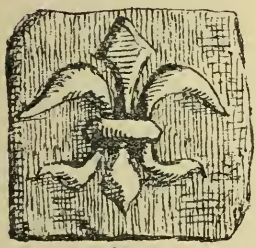
CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

"Ralph Hethcote Belfounder"—the son of Ralph Heathcote, brazier, of Chesterfield, whose will is dated in 1502—released, in 1524, to his son George Hethcote, certain lands, and died in the following year, when an inventory of his goods was taken.

George Heathcote, another son of Ralph, whose will is dated in 1502, was also a bellfounder. His will is dated on the 4th of August, 1558 (after which date he soon died) and in it he bequeaths his dwelling in Saltergate-head, Chesterfield, and other property, to his wife Margaret, and then says:—"I give and bequethe to Raffe Hethcott my sonne and Heyre all my Lands and allso I bequethe to the same Raffe my sonne all my moldes and Towles all Brass and Bell metell and all other thinges in my workhowse apperteyning to my Occupation."

There are four bells in Lincolnshire—West Barkwith 2nd, Belleau 1st, Bishop's Norton 2nd, and Wadingham 2nd—which bear the curious shield fig. 80 on the annexed *Plate XIV.*, which Mr. Jewitt (to whom I am indebted for

80



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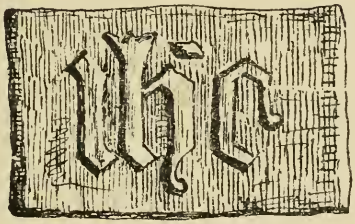

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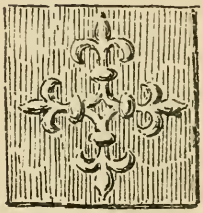

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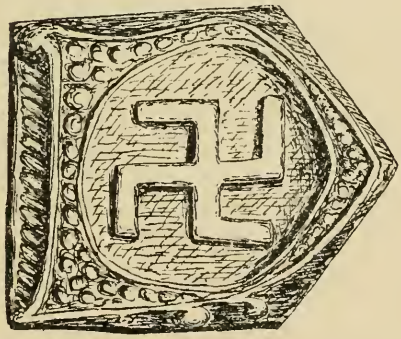

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Thomas Kell & Son. Photolith.
40, King Street, Covent Garden

these notes on the Chesterfield foundry*) thinks may be assigned to this George Heathcote. These four bells in addition to the shield fig. 80 have the stamps figs. 81 and 82; and the Belleau and Wadingham bells have also the cross fig. 83, which also occurs by itself on the 1st bell at Asterby.

The stamps figs. 81 and 82 are also on the 1st bell at Scothorne in company with the capital letter D (fig. 84) used as a stamp, and found on the 5th bell at Matlock, in Derbyshire. This Scothorne bell was therefore from the same foundry as the four just mentioned. The same curious stamp (fig. 84) is also on the 5th bell at Appleby with the shield fig. 89 (see p. 87) bearing the initials of Thomas Bett of Leicester: from what foundry this bell came is uncertain.

It will be noticed that a distinctive feature in the stamps figs. 80 and 84 is the "fylfot," or cross cramponée. The fylfot, or swaslika as it was there called, was used as a symbol by the votaries of Buddha six hundred years before Christ. Centuries afterwards it was known in Scandinavia: and is supposed to have had some mystical signification in mediæval English heraldry and ecclesiastical art: it is found on the earliest known English monumental brass—that of Sir John D'Aubernon (A.D. 1277) at Stoke D'Aubernon, Surrey—and on rather later brasses at S. Leigh's, Essex, and at Kemsing in Kent.

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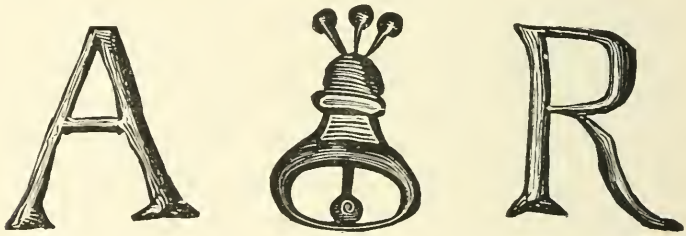
* *Reliquary*, xvi. p. 141-6.

GLOUCESTER.

This was the centre of the Bellfounder's art at an early period. John of Gloucester flourished early in the fourteenth century; Sandre of Gloucester and others followed. The Rudhalls worked a foundry here with great success from the end of the seventeenth century till about the year 1831, when it passed into the hands of the Whitechapel founders.

Abraham Rudhall supplied the ring of four bells at Heighington and three bells at Washingborough—upon all of which is his stamp (fig. 85) here given—in the year 1713: and the ring of eight to S. Peter at Arches, Lincoln, in the year 1728.



85

HERTFORD.

John Briant, bellfounder of Hertford, supplied several bells to Lincolnshire churches. They date from 1793 at Claypole (3rd) to 1805 at Moulton (5th). He was born at Exning in Suffolk. He commenced business as a bellfounder by casting the ring of eight bells at S. Andrew's,

Hertford, and his fame as a good founder soon procured him a large connection. In December, 1827, Mr. Briant (being then out of business) was consulted by Mr. Betham, Surveyor to the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln, as to the crack then discovered in "Great Tom:" to Mr. Betham's questions Mr. Briant returned very full and practical replies, strongly recommending the employment of a London founder as having a proper furnace for so large a casting. Owing to pecuniary difficulties he ended his days in the Spencer Almshouses, S. Albans, where he died on the 27th of February, 1829, being then in the 81st year of his age. He was buried in All Saints' churchyard, Hertford.

Upon several of Briant's bells in this county the name of

John Cabourn is associated with his own as joint founder. Cabourn was a whitesmith, a church bellhanger, and a good change-ringer, but he was not a bellfounder. He began business in his early days with sixteen shillings gleaned in Christmas boxes. He died "after severe and painful affliction which he suffered with patience and fortitude" at Sutterton, in this county, on the 6th of April, 1813, aged 63 years, leaving behind him property of the value of £20,000.* He was buried at Sutterton, where his grave is marked by a plain headstone which records that with much assiduity he "carefully improved his talents," that in him were united "the skilful artist and scientific mechanic," and that he was "celebrated and admired for his professional excellence as a church bellhanger."

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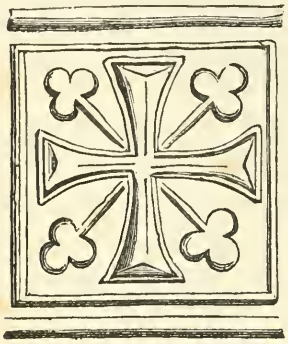
* *Gent. Mag.* lxxxiv. p. 100.

LEICESTER.

Johannes de Stafford, whose name is mentioned as a bellfounder in the Fabric Roll of York Minster* under the date of 1371, was probably the same as the man of that name who was Mayor of Leicester in 1366, and again in 1370, and whose name appears as founder upon the tenor bell of the ring of All Saints', Leicester. He also cast (as we know from the initial cross, and the form of letters used) several other bells still hanging in Leicestershire. In this county his name appears upon the tenor bell at Scawby, with his initial cross, stop, and letters here engraved (figs. 86, 87 and 88) the size of the originals. The same are also upon the 2nd bell at West Allington, and the single bell at Dry Doddington, both of which are therefore fourteenth century bells, and may be assigned to him.



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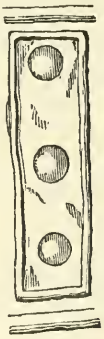
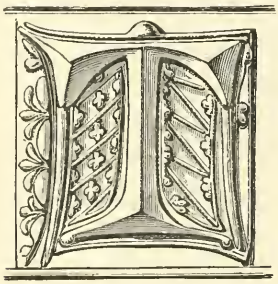


87



88

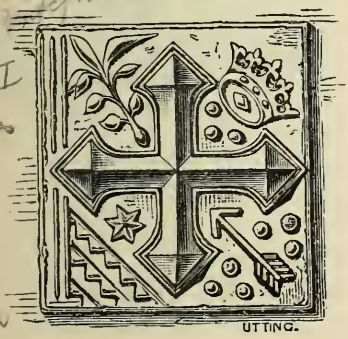
* *Surtees Soc.* Vol. 35. p. 9.

The first recorded bellfounder at Leicester is William Millers, who died in 1506: to him succeeded Thomas Newcombe (*ob.* 1520) who was succeeded by

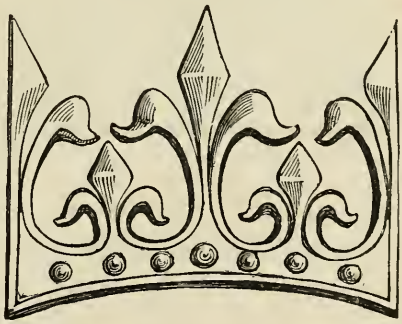
Thomas Bett, Mayor of Leicester in 1529, and who died in 1538. Whether he was the founder of the 5th bell at Appleby, bearing an imperfect stamp with his initials fig. 89, is very uncertain. He was succeeded by his son-in-law,

89

Robert Newcombe, Mayor of Leicester in 1550. He used the stamps figs. 90 and 91. The following bells in Lincolnshire may be assigned to him: the 2nd and 3rd at Barholm, the 1st at Careby, the 1st at Semperingham, the 3rd at Syston, and the 1st at Tallington. Robert Newcombe had three

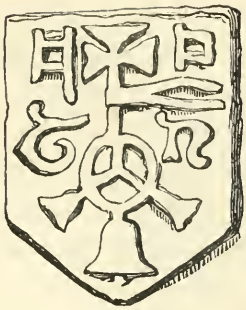


90



91

sons, Thomas, Robert, and Edward, who all became founders.

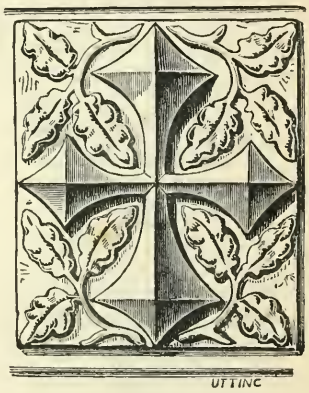


92

(1) Thomas Newcombe, his eldest son, used a founder's mark bearing his initials (most probably also used by his predecessor of the same name) fig. 92, and with it also the cross given above fig. 90. These stamps are found upon the 2nd bell at Haceby.

This Thomas Newcombe and his predecessors used many other stamps including fig. 93 found on the 3rd bell at Aslackby in

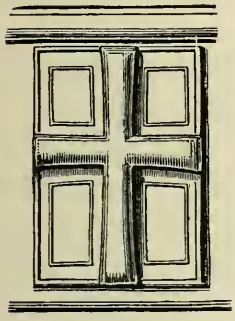
93



94

company with the initial cross fig. 94, and on the 2nd at Bitchfield with fig. 91; figs. 95 and 97 on the 5th bell at Swinderby; and fig. 96 on the 1st bell at Bitchfield, and on the 4th at Swinstead; all which bells may be assigned to those founders, as may also the 2nd bell at Normanton, which has its inscription in large ornate gothic capitals like the 4th at Swinstead, but without an initial cross.

This Thomas Newcombe died in 1580-1.



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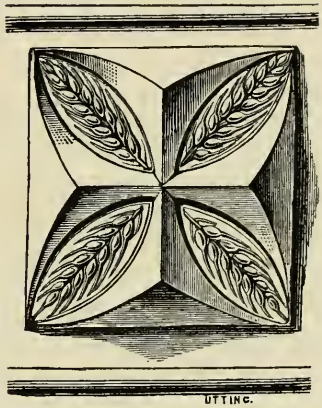


96

97

(2) Robert Newcombe another son of Robert placed his name and his stamps upon several bells in Leicestershire.

(3) Edward Newcombe, a third son of Robert, was most probably the founder of the 2nd bell at Gretford, dated 1593, upon which he placed the stamp fig. 90 engraved on page 87.

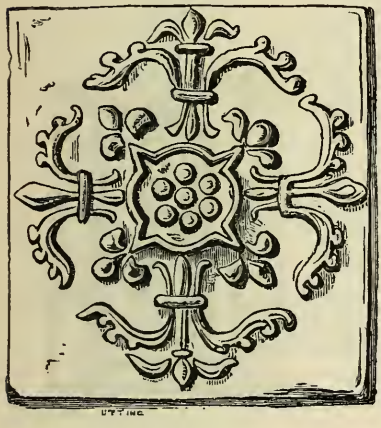
This Edward Newcombe had three sons, Robert, Thomas, and William connected with the foundry, the last-mentioned of whom—William—cast in partnership with Henry Oldfield of Nottingham,

Great Tom of Lincoln in the Minster-Yard in the year 1610. Soon after that date the foundry of the Newcombes appears to have merged into, or to have been eclipsed by that of the Watts family.

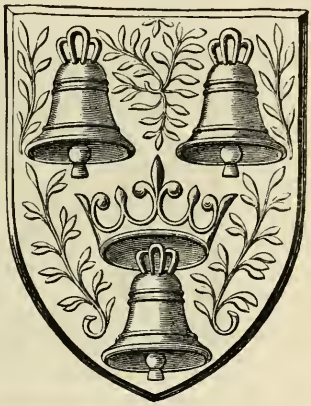
Several of that family, of whom we have no documentary notice, were casting bells in the sixteenth century. "Hew Watts" placed his name upon the 1st bell at South Luffenham, Rutland, in 1563; "William Wates" cast bells now hanging at Clifton, Bedfordshire, in 1590, but

Francis Watts appears with certainty as a Leicester bellfounder in 1564 when he bought some bell wheels from the church of S. Peter then being taken down. He died in the year 1600, his Will being proved in that year. These early members of the Watts family used letters and stamps previously used by the Brazyers, founders at Norwich; it is therefore highly probable that the immediate predecessor of one of them had been employed at Norwich, and leaving during the temporary closing of the foundry there upon the death of Richard Brasyer in 1513, found his way to Leicester, bringing some of the old bell gear with him, and opened a foundry there. Francis Watts occasionally joined in partnership with the Newcombes in casting bells: thus they jointly cast the tenor bell of Loughborough, Leicestershire, in 1585, and to such a partnership we may ascribe the 1st and 4th bells at S. John Baptist, Stamford, cast in 1561 upon which appears the stamp fig. 98 which we know to have belonged to the Newcombes, and fig. 99, with the ornate letters to be referred to presently all of which were constantly used by the Wattses: also on the curious

2nd bell at North Witham we have the Watts stamp fig. 99 in conjunction with the Newcombes' stamps figs. 91 and 90 given on page 87.



98



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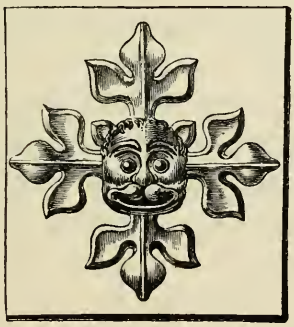
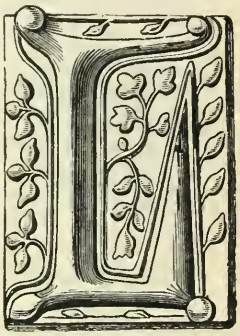


100

Both Francis Watts and his son and successor Hugh Watts also used the stamp fig. 100 which is found in

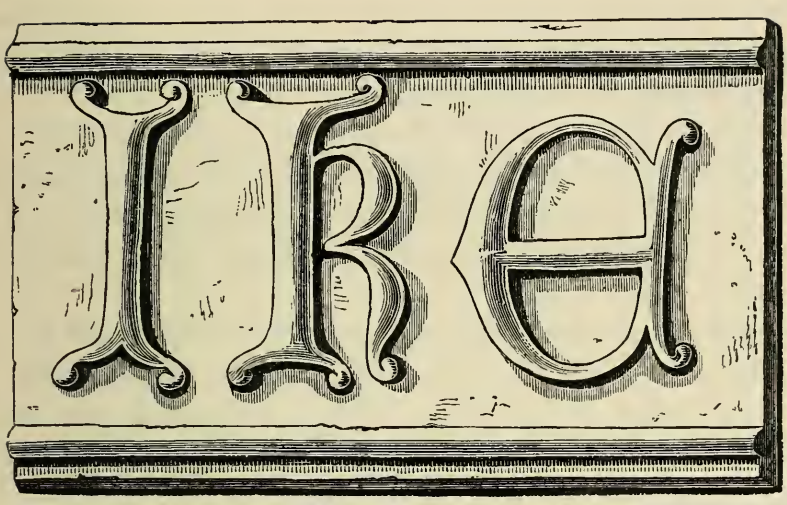
company with their more usual stamp fig. 99 on the 3rd bell at Helpringham, dated 1600, where the inscription is in the ornate gothic capitals, specimens of which are here engraved.



101

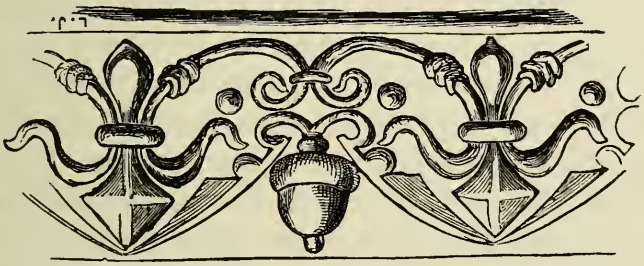
Francis Watts was succeeded in the foundry by his son

Hugh Watts, who soon obtained a very high reputation as a founder: his bells are still very numerous in Leicestershire, and are all extremely good in tone. He continued to use the stamp fig. 99 upon most of his bells, but only upon comparatively rare occasions did he use the ornate gothic capitals of his father fig. 101 above, substituting sometimes a somewhat plainer gothic letter fig. 102, but more generally a rather clumsy Roman capital. He extended the inscription round the bell, filling up the spaces between the words in most cases with an ornamental acorn



102

band fig. 103. Harlaxton 3rd bell is the only specimen of



103

his founding in this county. It is one of his "Nazarenes," so called by his contemporaries from the frequency with which he used the inscription given thereon.

Hugh Watts died in 1643: portions of his bell gear fell

into the hands of the Nottingham founders: his letters are upon the 2nd bell at Blyton, but his stamp (fig. 99) and band ornament never appear after his death.

The Leicester foundry was closed, and no founder appeared again there until Thomas Clay commenced business about the opening of the eighteenth century. He sent no remaining bells into this county. After a second interval

Edward Arnold opened a foundry at Leicester in or about the year 1784. He had worked with, and succeeded, Joseph Eayre, at S. Neots. He sent nine bells into this county—no complete ring—dating from 1787 at Croyland (4th) to 1797 at Stamford S. George (3rd).

Messrs. Taylor. During part of the time that Edward Arnold carried on the Leicester foundry, he also continued his business at S. Neots, into which he received, as an apprentice, Robert Taylor, who towards the close of the eighteenth century succeeded to the foundry there, which at that time was carried on in a lofty brick building situate in the Priory, and built in the form of a bell. The business was carried on there by Robert Taylor, then by Robert Taylor and Sons, until the year 1821, when they removed to Oxford. In 1825 the late Mr. John Taylor, one of the above firm, went to Buckland Brewer, near Bideford, Devon, to cast bells there, and after casting several rings and odd bells in Devon, Cornwall, &c., returned to Oxford in 1835. In 1839 or 1840 he and his son came to Loughborough, Leicestershire, to cast the bells there, and finding the town well situated for business took up their residence

in that place. Since that time Mr. John Taylor has died, leaving his son, the present Mr. John William Taylor, the head of the now justly celebrated Leicestershire foundry. The Oxford foundry, which had been chiefly under the superintendence of Mr. William Taylor, brother of the above-mentioned Mr. John Taylor, was closed upon his decease, which occurred in 1854.

The Messrs. Taylor have supplied a large number of bells to Lincolnshire from all their foundries. As their names appear upon them a list in detail is rendered unnecessary.*

KETTERING.

The Parish Registers of Kettering show that several families of Eayre, Ayre, or Aire were living there in the latter part of the seventeenth, and early in the eighteenth centuries.

John Eayre was Constable in 1662. He and Thomas Eayre (probably his brother) signed the Kettering Vestry Book in 1714, and the latter also signed, with others, the order in the same book, and in the same year, for recasting the ancient church bells. The new bells were cast by Richard Sanders of Bromsgrove, from which we may infer that the Kettering foundry was not then opened. The Eayres were clockmakers, and as such Thomas Eayre's

* For a full account of the ancient Leicester Bellfounders, with copies of their Wills, &c., &c., see *Church Bells of Leicestershire*, p. 37-74.

name appears upon the 4th bell then cast as "T. Eayre Horo."

"Thomas Ayre senr." was buried 15 April 1716. I gather from the Register that he was the Thomas Eayre the clock-maker just mentioned, and that he had two sons "Thomas son of Thomas Eayre and Anne his wife [who] was born 26 Aug. 1691 and baptized 21 Jany. 1711" and "Mr. Josh. Eayre an adult person baptized Oct. 26, 1731." This Joseph Eayre subsequently, as we shall see, opened a foundry at S. Neots.

Thomas and John Eayre. It would appear that very shortly after the death of Thomas Eayre the elder, his son Thomas Eayre, in partnership with (as I suppose) his uncle John Eayre, opened a bell-foundry at Kettering, for the 2nd bell at Cranford S. John, Northamptonshire, is inscribed "Thomas et Johannes Eayre de Kettering fecerunt," and is dated "Oct. 1717," and other bells in that county, all dated 1718, were from their foundry. I do not know the date of the death of John Eayre,—who sent no bells into Lincolnshire—but I find no bells bearing his name of a later date than 1718, and the Kettering foundry appears soon after that to have passed into the sole management of

Thomas Eayre who also continued the business of a clockmaker.

It was of this Thomas Eayre that the Rev. J. Ludlam* subsequently wrote:—"I saw a great deal of the art of bell-

* Of Trinity College, Cambridge. He graduated in 1748-9, and was Chaplain of Horningsey 1757-1765.

founding in the time of the late Mr. Thomas Eayre of Kettering, a man who had a true taste for it, and spared no expense to make improvements. Much of tone depends on minute circumstances in the shape, and Mr. Eayre had crooks or forms cut in thin boards, carefully taken from the inside and outside of all the good bells he could find . . ."*

Thomas Eayre died on one of the last days of the year 1757. He was buried in Kettering Church, most probably in the south aisle of the chancel and in the same grave as his wife Susannah who had died three years previously, but no inscription records his sepulture. The entry of his burial in the parish register is :—

1758. Mr. Thomas Eayre Buried January ye 3^d^.

From his will, dated the 24th of September 1757, we learn that he had then four children : three daughters, Ann, Sarah, and Frances to each of whom he left a legacy of £50 and one son, Thomas, who was his sole executor.† This

Thomas Eayre (2nd) (who, according to the parish registers, married Eliz: Marshall on the 11th Oct. 1748) was associated with his father in the foundry and carried it on for a few years after his father's death. Mr. Ludlam says he was "a good bellfounder" and that "he cast a dish bell of 5 or 6 cwt. for the church clock of Boston, Lincolnshire, the tone of which was very deep and wild."

According to a tradition current at Earl's Barton,

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* Brewster's *Encyclopedia*, Article Horology.

† This Will is in the District Probate Registry at Northampton.

Northamptonshire, this Thomas Eayre was employed—as the present inscription testifies—to recast the tenor bell of that ring in 1761: he is said to have become bankrupt at that time, and not to have had enough metal to make the bell the weight it ought to have been. He employed his nephew Edward Arnold, afterwards of S. Neots and Leicester, to complete the job.

About that time the Kettering foundry was closed. Although the bells cast at Kettering were very numerous comparatively few are in this county: Wigtoft having the only complete ring supplied by Thomas Eayre. They are generally well cast and good in tone. His bells in Lincolnshire range in date from 1730 at Anwick (2nd) to 1761 at Folkingham (3rd) and Stamford S. George (1st). Thomas Eayre's favourite inscriptions were "Omnia fiant ad gloriam Dei"—"Gloria Deo soli"—"Gloria Patri Filio et Spiritui Sancto" and "I H S. Nazarenus Rex Judeorum Fili Dei miserere mei." He generally also placed the date and his name as founder (omitted however, on Anwick 2nd and Gretford 1st bells) and used a liberal supply of *Croslets fitchy* to fill up vacant spaces.

The street in Kettering now called Wadcroft was formerly known as "Bell-Founder's Lane." It is so named in old maps of the town. A few yards down this street, on the left hand entering from the High Street, is a blank wall: about mid-way along this wall may be traced in the pavement the edge stones about what was once the mouth of a well now filled up. This was known as "The Foundry Well," and the wall (to which is still fastened the iron hook

which once held up the wooden covering of the well when open) was no doubt the exterior wall of the Kettering foundry. In Gold Street is the Grammar School: a short distance above which—standing a little back from the street, and partially hidden by a modern building—is an old fashioned house of a fair size: this was Thomas Eayre's private residence.*

LOUVAINE.

A. L. J. Van Aerschodt supplied the tenor bell of the ring of eight bells, and the thirty-six carillon bells to Boston in the year 1867. The readers of Mr. Haweis' *Music and Morals*, and of his numerous contributions to bell literature, will know that Peter van den Gheyn was a bellfounder at Louvaine in 1562. From him descended Matthias van den Gheyn (born 1721) "the greatest organist and carilloneur Belgium has ever produced." He died, aged 64, in 1785, leaving a numerous family. The present Louvaine bellfounders, André Louis van Aerschodt and Severin van Aerschodt, are the sons of Anne Maximiliane, his granddaughter. Mr. Haweis says that these gentlemen cast all the best bells that are made in Belgium, and that "certainly the younger brother, Severin, retains much of the artistic feeling and genuine pride in his bells so distinctive of the old founders." It further appears, from Mr. Haweis'

* I am obliged to the Rector of Kettering (the Rev. Canon Lindsay) for extracts from the Parish Records, and to Mr. W. H. Jones for notes on the site of the foundry.

remarks, that Boston was unfortunate in the choice between the two brothers: however that may be, it is generally allowed that Boston is not fortunate in the bells composing the carillon. Mr. Haweis explains the matter in a letter to the *Times* newspaper, written in November, 1878, by stating "that the drawings and plan for the Boston bells were made by Severin van Aerschodt; but the bells were cast by his brother, André Louis, who, on the authority of Mr. Denyn, the greatest living carillioneur, 'is a distinctly inferior maker.' M. Severin van Aerschodt rubs his hands anent these bells. He once said to me laughing, 'My brother had my designs, but he could not cast my bells.'"

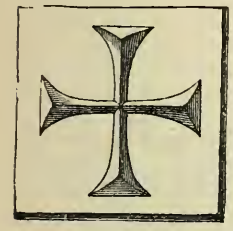
NORWICH.

From the fourteenth to the eighteenth century Norwich, with slight breaks, had its bellfounders.

John Brend, after being settled in Norwich some years, became a freeman of that city in 1573. He sent four bells in Lincolnshire, namely, Fleet 5th and Toynton All Saints' 2nd in 1572, Healing 4th in 1573, and Benniworth 2nd in 1577. He used Arabic numerals for his dates, and large uncouth Roman capitals for the few inscriptions he used, of which his Lincolnshire bells give specimens. His initials, I. B., which he usually placed upon his bells, are linked together in a quaint manner. He died in 1582.

R. G. There are four other bells (two—Irby-on-Humber 2nd and Langton-by-Horncastle single, dated 1579, Bracebridge single dated 1583, and Baumber 2nd dated 1585)

bearing these initials, which, from the similarity of lettering and form of inscriptions, appear to have come from the same foundry, but the owner of the initials is at present unknown. The Baumber and Bracebridge bells bear the initial cross fig. 104. Upon the death of John Brend, as just mentioned, in 1582, the foundry was carried on by his son



104

WILLIAM BREND, who used, amongst other forms of letters, a small black letter without capitals. To him I attribute a few bells in this county, viz.: Quadring 3rd and 4th dated 1619, Quarrington 1st dated 1624, Raithby-by-Spilsby 3rd cast in 1620, Toynton All Saints' 3rd in 1615, and Frodingham 2nd—with a capital initial letter—in 1624. He died in 1634, leaving his bell-metal in equal portions between his wife Alice, and their son, John Brend, and leaving the latter all his bell gear. John Brend carried on the foundry, and there is no record of his mother, Alice Brend, being in any way connected with it, but there is a bell (the 2nd) at Raithby-by-Louth, dated 1636, with an inscription in the gothic smalls (with initial capitals, however, in this case) used by William Brend, and ending with the initials I A B, which most probably mean

JOHN AND ALICE BREND, the mother being very likely associated with her son for at least a time until their joint bell-metal was converted into money. John Brend died in 1658.

No other existing bells in Lincolnshire came from

the Norwich foundry, which was closed about the year 1753.*

NOTTINGHAM.

There are a large number of bells in Lincolnshire from the Nottingham foundries. Those foundries will, I think, whenever the history of the Church Bells of Nottinghamshire is written, be shown to have been amongst the largest and most important in the kingdom. It would be stepping beyond the boundaries of this volume to attempt the placing upon record more than the shortest possible account of such of the Nottingham founders as are at present known to us, to aid in identifying their bells, and to assist in tracing the founders of some of the more ancient bells now remaining in Lincolnshire churches.

At present we have no very early mention of a Nottingham bellfounder. "William Brasiere de Notyngham," who was admitted to the freedom of the city of Norwich in 1376, may have been (as it has been suggested) identical with William de Norwyco, who cast some bells in Norfolk about that date: "a few years residence in Norwich would have entitled him to call himself William de Norwyco."† A hundred years later—in 1488—we meet with

Richard Mellour, Alderman of Nottingham and "Belyetter." Deeds are preserved in the Free Library,

* For an account of the Brends see *Church Bells of Norfolk*, p. 34-42.

† *Church Bells of Norfolk*, p. 25.

PEDIGREE OF THE QUARNBIE AND MELLOUR FAMILIES.

ARMS (of Quarnbie) Arg., two bars sa., the one in chief charged with a martlet or.

ARMS (of Mellour). Arg., three blackbirds, sa.

- Thomas Quarnbie, of Derby. = ...
  - Thomas Quarnbie, of Derby. = Elizabeth, dau. and co-heir of Henry Tickhill
  - Nicholas Quarnbie, of Nottingham and husband. Probably died without issue. = Juliana, dau. and heir of John Mapperly, of Mapperly, co. Notts.
    - Humphrey Quarnbie, Alderman of Nottingham (and bellfounder?) Sheriff 1534. Mayor 1542, 1549, 1555, 1562. M.P. for Nottingham, 1554 and 1562. = Elizabeth, sole dau. and heir, of Alderman Robert Mellour.
      - Elizabeth, marr. at St. Mary's, Nottingham, 4 Dec. 1567 to William Goodknapp.
      - Robert Quarnbie, of Nottingham, bellfounder. = Frances, dau. of (Henry?) Dand; marr at St. Mary's, Nottingham, 26 Jan., 1567-8.
        - Elizabeth, dau. and eventual coheir., bapt. at St. Mary's, Nottingham, 19 Sept., 1568, marr. there 26 Nov., 1588, to John Kyme, of Nottingham, Gent; bur. there 1 May, 1626.
        - Mary, dau. and eventual coheir, bapt. at St. Mary's, Nottingham, 13 May, 1571; marr. there to Thos. Blythe, of Aspley Wood Hall, co. Notts., Gent.
        - Robert, bapt. St. Mary's Nottingham, 30 Mar., 1572; died young.
        - Anne, bapt. St. Mary's, Nottingham, 12 Apr., 1573, bur. there 2 June, 1573.
        - Humphrie, bapt. St. Mary's, Nottingham, 21 Nov., 1574, died young.
        - Margerie, bapt. St. Mary's, Nottingham, 21 Oct., 1576, bur. there 9 Nov. 1576.
      - Anne, marr. at St. Mary's, Nottingham, 27 Sept., 1574, to Peter Lowth.
  - Richard Mellour, otherwise Meller or Mellers. Alderman of Nottingham and bellfounder. Mayor in 1499 and in 1506. Died before 1509. = Agnes, dau. of . . . . . survived her husband, and founded the Free School at Nottingham in 1513.
    - Robert Mellour, Alderman of Nottingham and bellfounder. Sheriff 1511. Mayor 1521. Benefactor to the Free School. 1st husband. Will dated 16 July, 1525; died in that year. = Juliana, dau. and heir of John Mapperly, of Mapperly, co. Notts.
    - Thomas Mellour, Alderman of Nottingham. Sheriff 1509. Mayor 1514, 1524 and 1529. Will dated 16 Aug. 1535 = Margery, dau. of . . . . . survived her husband. Will dated 9 June, 1539, and proved at York.

[Kindly drawn up for me by Captain A. E. Lawson Lowe, F.S.A.]

Nottingham, from which we learn that "Rīco Mellour de Notyngham Belyetter" was living in 1488. He was Mayor of Nottingham in 1499, and again in 1506. He died, probably, about the year 1508, as there is a Deed extant to which "Dame Agnes Mellers, widowe, executrix of the testament of Richard Mellers, late of Notyngham, belfounder," was a party: it is dated xviij October xxiiij Henry vii.* Richard Mellour was succeeded by his son

Robert Mellour, also Alderman of Nottingham and Bellfounder: he was, probably, the founder of an early ring of Bells, predecessors of those at present at Louth in this county, which ring, we shall see, was cast in 1510, and also of a bell mentioned in the Accounts of the Churchwardens of Wigtoft, as being cast by a Nottingham founder, in the year 1525. His Will, a copy of which is now before me, is dated the 16th of July 1525, and he died shortly after its execution.

It will be seen from the annexed Pedigree, for which I am much indebted to Captain A. E. Lawson Lowe, F.S.A., that Robert Mellour's widow, Juliana, was married, secondly, to Nicolas Quarnbie, and that his only daughter and heiress, Elizabeth, became the wife of Humphrey Quarnbie, Alderman, and sometime Member of Parliament for Nottingham. Whether this Humphrey was a bellfounder is not quite certain: he probably was. It is evident from Robert Mellour's Will that his foundry must have passed with his

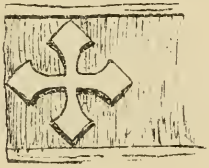
* *Reliquary* xiii. 81.

other property to his daughter and heiress Elizabeth, who was this Humphrey's wife, and their son, Robert Quernbie, was, as we shall see, undoubtedly a bellfounder. This Robert was not born until some few years after his grandfather, Robert Mellour's death, and it is not likely that the foundry would be suffered to remain idle. Thomas Mellour, the younger brother of Robert, (see pedigree), may have been a bellfounder, and possibly continued the business after his brother's death, but it is rather improbable, for this Thomas left two sons, William and Fabyan, neither of whom seem to have been bellfounders. It is most likely that the foundry passed by marriage from the Mellours to the Quernbies or Quarnbies.

Robert Quernbie, however, the son of Humphrey Quernbie, and grandson of Robert Mellour, is the only one of the name we know, with certainty, at present, as a bellfounder. He was married in January 1567-8. He had six children,—two boys and four girls—: the two boys died young, and so, having no one of his own family to succeed to the foundry, he appears, some time prior to 1593, to have taken Henry Oldfield into his business, for their joint names

Robert Quernbie and Henry Oldfield are upon two bells still hanging in this county—the tenor at Lincoln Cathedral, and the 3rd bell at Ruskington, both dated 1593. We know that in the same year they also cast four of the "Lady Bells" formerly hanging in the central tower of Lincoln Cathedral. On the two existing bells is the stamp fig. 105, on the annexed *Plate XV.*, bearing the

105



106

107

108

STAMPS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

Thomas Bell & Son, Photolith.
40, King Street, Covent Garden

joint names of the founders. In addition to this stamp the Lincoln bell bears the initial cross fig. 106, and the stamp fig. 108: this last mentioned stamp (fig. 108) is also on the Ruskington bell in company with the rose-like stamp fig. 107. These three stamps will be again referred to presently.

I do not know when Robert Quernbie died, but at his death the foundry was carried on by Henry Oldfield.

Whether the Oldfields were an old Nottingham family or whether one of the name settled there about the middle of the sixteenth century is uncertain: judging from certain bell stamps and letters used by the Oldfields, but which "were certainly made originally for some fifteenth century foundry, probably at York, as they have only been found with their earliest trade marks in Yorkshire, Durham, and Northumberland," it would appear that the latter was the case.*

The first of the name, as a bellfounder, I have met with is

THOMAS "OWEFELD," who cast the Sanctus bell for the church of Melton-Mowbray, Leicestershire, in 1553: but the record does not say he was of Nottingham.†

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* See Mr. Fowler's Notes in *Yorks. Arch. Journal*, II. 65, and see also *Church Bells of Somerset*, p. 118, for an engraving of an ornate letter afterwards in Oldfield's hands. It may be worthy of notice, in connection with this idea, that bells by John of York are existing in Leicestershire and Northamptonshire, and that one at least of his stamps—the Virgin and Child—is found on a bell at Wellingore in this county, which was most probably cast by the Nottingham founders.

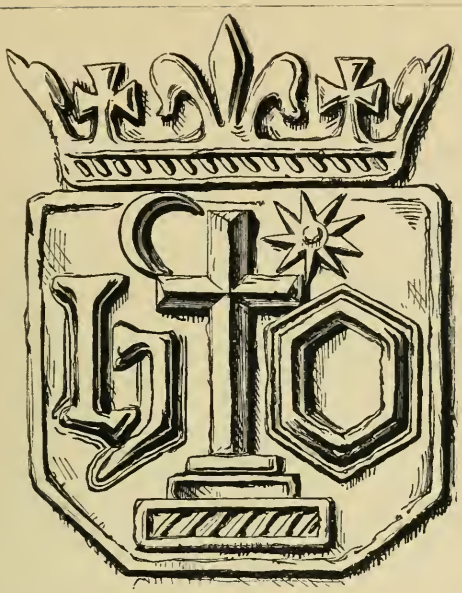
† North's *Church Bells of Leicestershire*, p. 247.

Henry Oldfield of Nottingham is said to have been living in 1558. There are five undated bells bearing a stamp ensigned with a crown fig. 109 on *Plate XVI.*, which clearly belonged to that family. They are the 1st bell at Mareham-le-Fen, the 4th at Stow, the 3rd and 4th at Walcott, and the 2nd at Silk Willoughby. In company with this stamp, fig. 109, occurs the cross fig. 111 on the bells just mentioned at Stow, Walcott (4th), and Silk Willoughby: also on the Stow bell is found the "Royal Head" fig. 112, on the 4th at Walcott the two "Royal Heads" figs. 110 and 112, and on the Silk Willoughby the former of those two only. These stamps will be presently referred to again. The forms of the inscriptions on these five bells accord with what we should expect to find at the transition period in which this Henry Oldfield lived: they may be safely assigned to him as their founder.

On the Sessions Roll of the town of Nottingham for the seventeenth year of Elizabeth's reign (1574-5) are two presentments of this Henry Oldfield, which are by no means creditable to him and his family. They serve our present purpose, for they give the locality of the Nottingham foundry at that time. He is described as "Henrye Oldefellde bellfounder ov' the Longe Row." This, or the back part of it, became afterwards known as Bellfounder's Yard, and there the foundry continued until its extinction at the commencement of the present century.

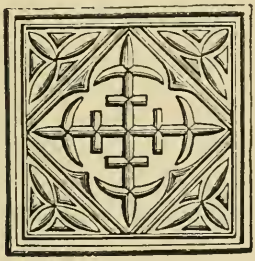
The date of the death of this Henry Oldfield is at present unknown.

Henry Oldfield (2nd), who is assumed to have been



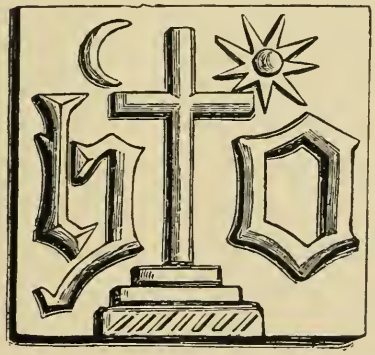
109

110



111

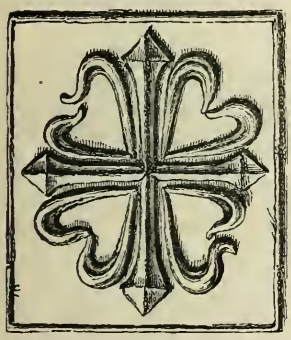
112



113

STAMPS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

the son of the last-named Henry, is the bellfounder who became partner with Robert Quernbie, and of whose bells, dated 1593, at Lincoln and Ruskington, mention has already been made. There are other bells in Lincolnshire, dated prior to 1600, which clearly were cast by him both before and after his connection with Robert Quernbie. Among these may be mentioned Hacconby 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, dated 1596; Kirkby-cum-Osgodby 1st and 2nd, dated 1598; Limber Magna 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, dated 1595; Partney 2nd, dated in the same year; Scampton 3rd, the earliest of his dated bells—1582; Washingborough 3rd, 4th, and 5th, dated 1589; these all bear a similar stamp to the one used by the first Henry Oldfield, but without the ensigned crown: it is engraved fig. 113 on *Plate XVI.* The inscriptions on all these bells are preceded by the initial cross fig. 116. This stamp (fig. 113), and similar ones, with the same initial cross, we shall find were used by all the Oldfields.

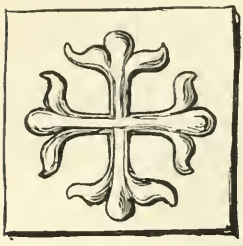


116

Other bells cast by Henry Oldfield prior to 1600 also bear the initial cross fig. 111 on *Plate XVI.*, in company with his distinctive stamp fig. 113; such are Boothby Pagnell 3rd, dated 1594; Branston 1st and 2nd, dated 1595; and Moulton 4th, dated 1588.

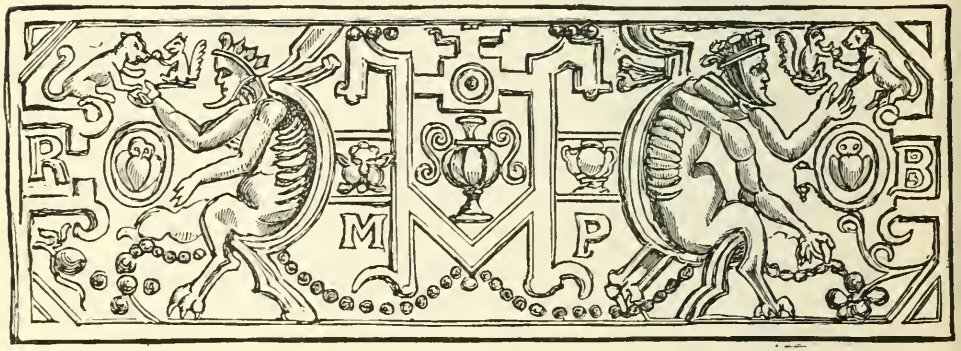
Again, on the 2nd bell at Fenton, dated 1596, is the initial cross fig. 117 (over) with the distinctive stamp fig. 113, which stamp is without any initial cross upon the 2nd bell

at Heydour, dated 1587. The initial cross itself (fig. 116) is alone upon the 4th bell at Branston, dated 1595, the 1st at Hale Magna, dated 1589; the 1st at Newton, near Folkingham, and the 3rd at Swaton, both dated 1596.



117

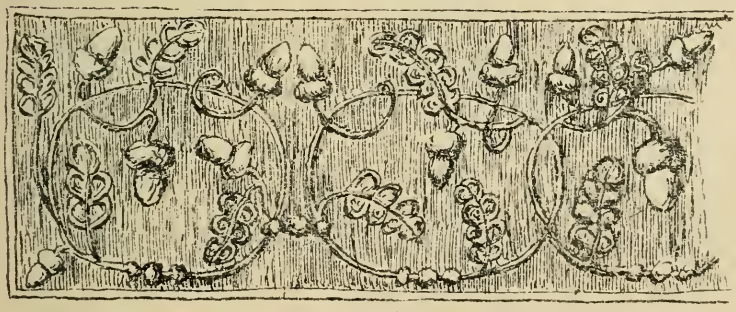
This Henry Oldfield occasionally placed the Royal Arms on his bells: the stamp fig. 114 on *Plate XVII.* is upon the 5th bell at Barton-on-Humber, dated 1598; the 3rd at Boothby Pagnell, dated 1594; the 1st at Kirkby-cum-Osgodby, dated 1598; and the 3rd at Limber Magna, dated 1595. For bands, and to fill up the spaces between the words of his inscriptions Henry Oldfield used occasionally the grotesque pattern fig. 118 here engraved, and the



118

graceful one fig. 115 on the *Plate XVII.:* the former is found at Barton-on-Humber S. Peter (5th), Corby (4th), Ewerby (2nd), Hale Magna (1st), Kirkby-cum-Osgodby

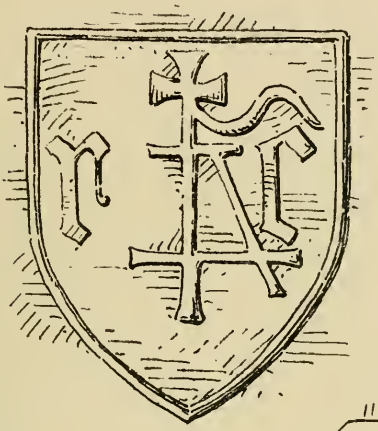
114



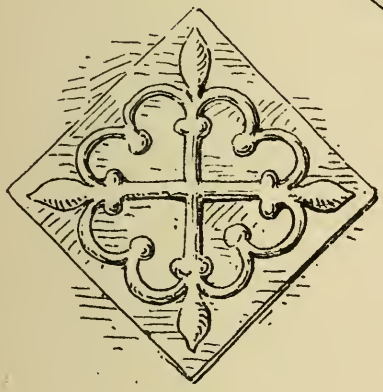
115

STAMPS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

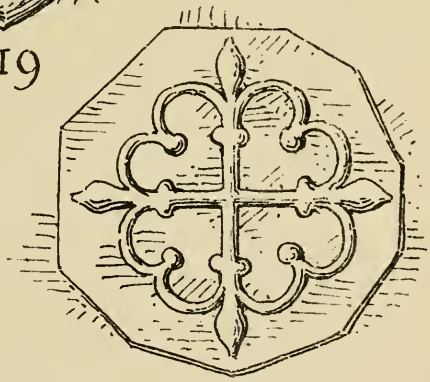
Thomas Kell & Son, Photolith.
40, King Street, Covent Garden.



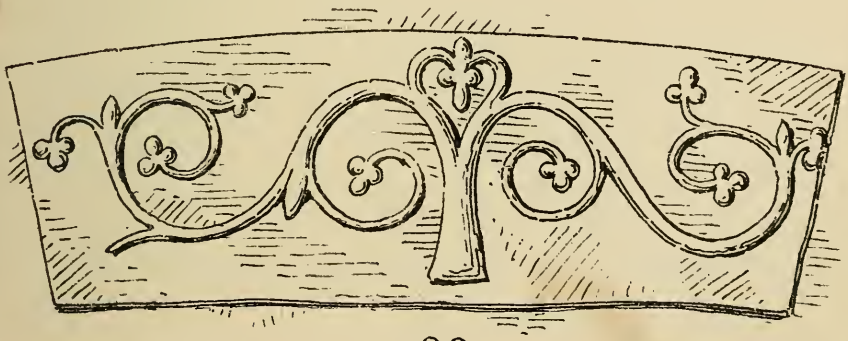
119



120



121



122

STAMPS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

Thomas Kell & Son, Photolith.
40, King Street, Covent Garden.

(1st), Scampton (3rd), and at Lavington (tenor): the latter is on bells at Aswarby (3rd), Heydour (2nd), Northope (single), Pilham (single); and also, with the other band fig. 118, on the tenor at Lavington.

We will now leave, for the present, the course of the Nottingham foundry at the date we have chosen as the line between what we call the ancient bells and the modern —A.D. 1600—and see whether the information we already possess will help us in assigning a few more of the ancient bells still remaining in this county to their founders.

Although the ancient bells have not usually either date or founder's name to enable us to say definitely by which particular man they were cast, the founder's stamps very frequently enable us to assign them to distinct foundries, and, allowing a broad margin, to approximate dates. These remarks apply to the Nottingham foundry or foundries carried on by the Mellours, Quernbies, and Oldfields, prior to the year 1600. By learning what stamps those founders placed upon their bells in the sixteenth century we may fairly assign—there being no contradictory circumstances—earlier bells bearing the same stamp, or stamps found in company with them, to the same foundry.

On the 3rd bell at Scampton, dated 1582, is, as we have seen (p. 107), the initial cross fig. 116 in company with the stamp fig. 113, which latter is well known to have been used by Henry Oldfield of Nottingham, whose initials it contains. Now in addition to the large number of comparatively modern bells (about fifty) bearing this cross, fig. 116, there are several more ancient ones, bearing the same cross,

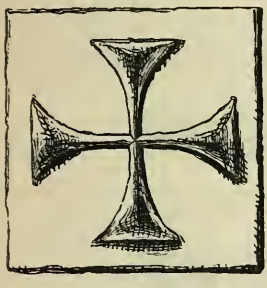
generally, like the modern one, on a square block, but sometimes on a lozenge. These bells, which may therefore fairly be assigned to the ancient Nottingham foundry, are at Alkborough (2nd), Asgarby (4th), Aylesby (3rd), North Carlton (2nd), Enderby Mavis (3rd), Hagworthingham (5th), Holton-le-Clay (2nd), Kirkby-cum-Osgodby (3rd), Lavington (tenor), South Willingham (2nd), and Wragby (4th and 5th).

All these, with the exception of the bells at Alkborough, Hagworthingham, and Lavington, also bear the shield fig. 119 on *Plate XVIII.*, accompanied, on the Aylesby bell, with the initial cross fig. 120.

This shield (fig. 119) which bears the trade mark of a founder whose initials were R. C. is interesting to us here because it can be traced back for about five hundred years. It is found upon the curious little bell hanging on the top of the Guildhall, Lincoln, which bell was cast in the Mayoralty of William Belle—A.D. 1371.

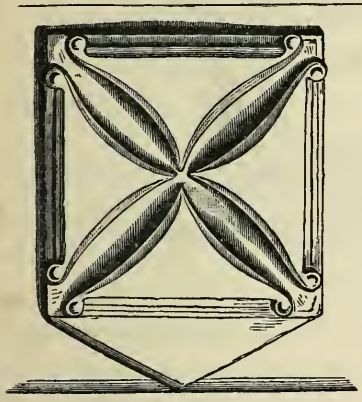
This shield being thus fairly assigned to a Nottingham founder, the following ancient bells—in addition to those already mentioned—upon which it appears may also be said to have been cast at that foundry: Althorpe 1st and 2nd, Boothby Graffoe 1st and 3rd, Claxby 2nd, Frodingham 3rd, (with fig. 122, and a Royal Head fig. 110 on *Plate XVI.*) Honington 2nd, Reepham single, Waith 1st and 2nd, Winthorpe 2nd, and Yarborough 2nd, all with the initial cross fig. 120; and South Carlton single, Hackthorne single, Halton East 2nd, Manby 2nd and 3rd, Scopwick 3rd, and Tetford 3rd all with the initial cross fig. 121. In order to

dispose of the cross fig. 121 it may be here noted that it occurs by itself on the 1st bell at Manby, and on the 2nd at Saxilby. Upon the 1st bell at Boothby Graffoe the shield, fig. 119, is alone. Again it is on the 1st bell at Boothby Pagnell and on the single bell at Swarby accompanied in both cases by the cross fig. 123, which cross is also on the 1st bell at Canwick, the 1st at Rowston, and the 1st at Wispington.



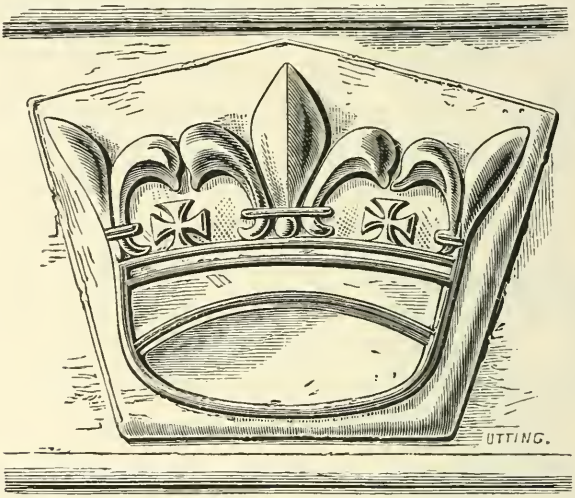
123

Again this shield, fig. 119, is on the 3rd bell at Deeping S. James in company with the early stamp fig. 124, which is found upon several ancient bells in Leicestershire and Northamptonshire. If we may, from this connection at Deeping S. James, assign this stamp (fig. 124) to an early Nottingham founder, then the following other bells bearing it may fairly be presumed to have come from the foundry there:—it will be noticed that most of them hang in churches on the western side of the county, and so near to Nottinghamshire—: Aswarby 1st, Asterby 3rd, Bassingthorpe 1st, Branston 3rd, Bytham Castle 1st, Carlby single, Fenton 1st, Hale Magna 3rd, Holton-le-Clay 3rd, Immingham 2nd, Lavington 1st and 2nd, Norton Disney 2nd, Semperingham 2nd, Stickford single, Stickney 3rd,



124

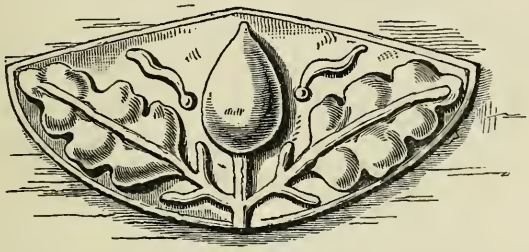
Tallington 2nd, Waddington 4th and Welbourne 2nd. Nearly all these bear very simple inscriptions—only the name of a saint, and two of them stamps only—thus indicating their antiquity. On three of them—Bassingthorpe 1st, Lavington 1st and Stickney 3rd—is also the crown fig. 125 (found with the same stamp in Northampton-



125

shire) accompanied at Lavington with a fleur-de-lys very similar, but not exactly like fig. 76 on page 79, and with the stamp fig. 126 here engraved which is also on the 2nd bell at Immingham just mentioned. This last mentioned stamp (fig. 126) is found in Leicestershire, as in this county, in company with fig. 124. We may, perhaps, approximately, date this stamp (fig. 124) by reference to the Will of Alice, wife of Anketel de Mallorby, proved on the 26th Oct. 1412,

by which she bequeathed £10. to the fabric of the Campanile of the church of Castle Bytham.* Supposing the



126

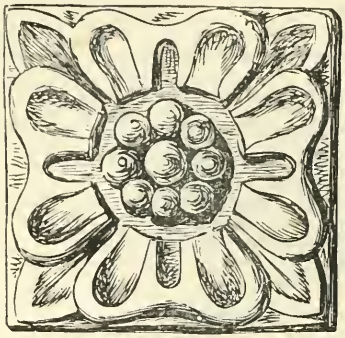
tower to be then building, it is very probable that the 1st bell upon which is the stamp now under notice, would be cast about the same time. Lastly the shield fig. 119 is also on the 3rd bell at West Rasen in company with fig. 110, the 1st at Tealby, and the 3rd at Waith, with figs. 110 and 111, and on the 3rd at Wilsford with fig. 111 only, for engravings of which see *Plate XVI.*, all which stamps will be referred to again presently.

In attempting to trace the birthplace of a few more of the ancient bells still remaining in this county, we will look at another early bell known to have been cast by the Nottingham founders.

The 3rd bell at Ruskington, dated 1593, which bears the trade mark of Robert Quernbie and Henry Oldfield of Nottingham (see p. 104) also bears two stamps which are here engraved, and which are found on a large number of

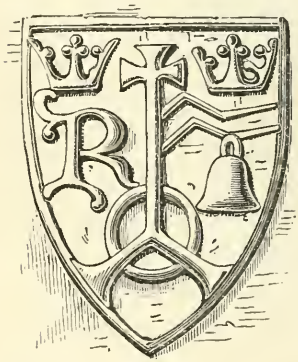
* *Reg. of Philip of Repingdon* quoted in *Hist. of Castle Bytham.* p. 60.

bells in Lincolnshire—figs. 107 and 127: the latter appears in two forms, the one here given, which is the more ancient form, and another from a coarser formed stamp (fig. 108 on *Plate XV.*) which is evidently a later production: it is this ruder form which is upon the Ruskington bell.



107 *(See Plate XV.)*

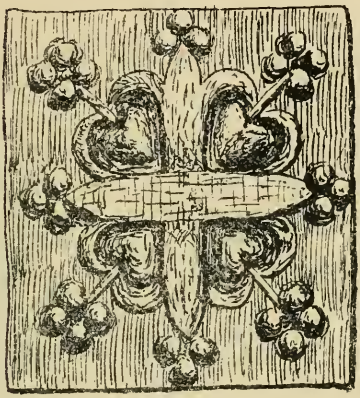
These stamps—Rose and Shield, figs. 107 and 127,—are upon ancient bells at Alkborough (1st.), Barrowby (5th), Burton Coggles (3rd), Caistor (5th), Gonerby Great (3rd), Gunby S. Peter (3rd), Haxey (4th and 6th), Killingholme (3rd), Laughton (2nd), Luddington (3rd), Bishop's Norton (1st), Sedgebrook (2nd and 3rd), Skidbrook (3rd), Thornton Curtis (3rd, dated 1592), Witham North (1st), and on twelve other bells which will be referred to presently as "Bells of S S."



127

Again these two stamps, figs. 107 and 127, are accompanied by the cross fig. 128 on *Plate XIX.*, on the 4th bell at Corby, the 4th at Hacconby, and on the grand bell at S. Mark's, Lincoln, dated 1585, upon which are also the stamps figs. 129 and 132.

At Haxey they occur, on the 5th bell, with the figure of



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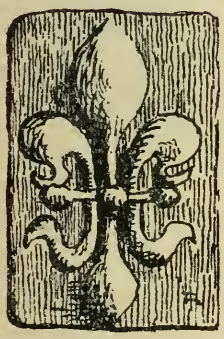

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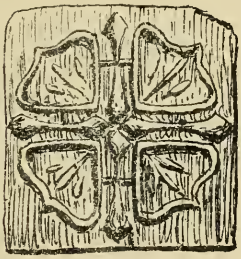

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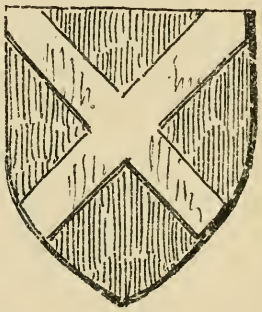

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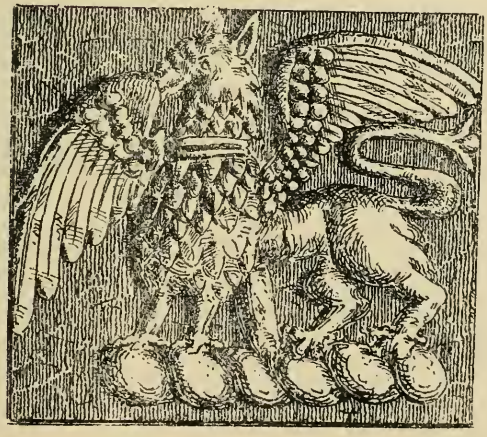

132

STAMPS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

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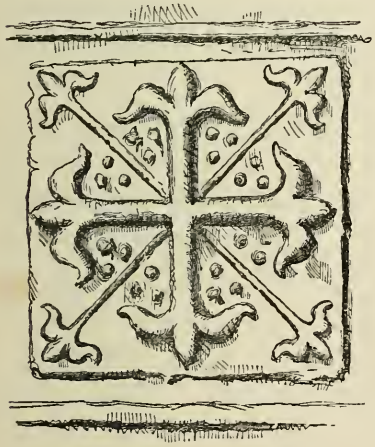
133

the Virgin and Child fig. 133 here engraved, which is found in company with the same stamps upon the 4th bell at Stanion in Northamptonshire. At Northope they occur on the single bell with the initial cross fig. 130 on *Plate XIX.*, only found once in this county. At Saltfleetby S. Peter, the 1st bell has them in company with the cross fig. 134 here engraved, and which is not found elsewhere in Lincolnshire. Again these stamps figs. 107 and 127 occur on the 2nd bell at East Kirkby, and on the single bell at Pilham, in company with the shield fig. 131 on *Plate XIX.*, which is also, with other stamps, on the 5th bell at Burgh, dated 1589, and on the 2nd at Snelland, dated 1647, the latter bearing as will be seen, the trade mark of Augustine Bowler.



134

Once more these stamps—the Rose and Shield—are found with the initial cross fig. 106—which it will be remembered is on Quernbie and Oldfield's bell

at Lincoln Cathedral (see p. 105)—on the 1st bell at Normanby-on-the-Wold. There are twenty bells in this county bearing the same initial cross, in several cases accompanied by the Oldfields' marks: all these, which need not be particularized, were cast at Nottingham.

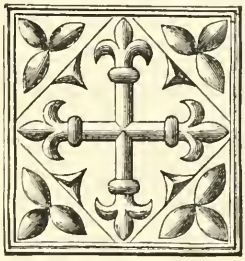
The Rose (fig. 107) is alone upon modern bells at Blyton (1st), Goxhill (2nd), Laughton (3rd), and Normanton (3rd).

The shield (fig. 127) is alone on the 4th bell at Belton, the 3rd at Boothby Graffoe, the Priest's at Hale Magna, the 3rd at North Witham, and the 3rd at Yarborough.

The more modern form of this shield (fig. 108 on *Plate XV.*) occurs with the Rose (fig. 107) on South Cockerington 3rd (with fig. 170), Hagworthingham 6th, Lincoln tenor (with fig. 105), Lincoln S. Botolph's Priest's, on the 1st and 3rd at Ruskington, and on the 3rd at Saxilby with Oldfield's initial cross.

Another known bell of the Nottingham foundry prior to 1600 is the 3rd bell at Boothby Pagnell, dated 1594, which in addition to Henry Oldfield's stamp (fig. 113) also bears the initial cross fig. 111 (see *Plate XVI.*), which is found on about seventeen bells in this county.

Again another bell from Nottingham—Ruskington 2nd—dated in the same year as the one at Boothby Pagnell (1594) bears a very similar initial cross fig. 135, which is also found elsewhere. Several of the bells with the cross fig. 111 also bear other stamps (figs. 119 and 109) known to have belonged to the Nottingham founders. These crosses (figs. 111 and 135) are found in other



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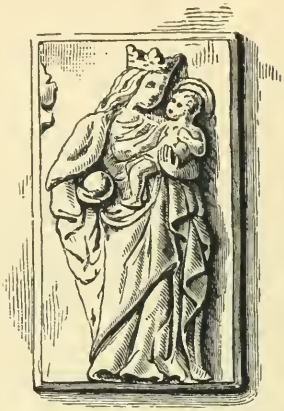

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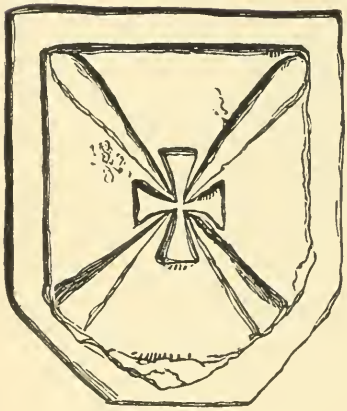

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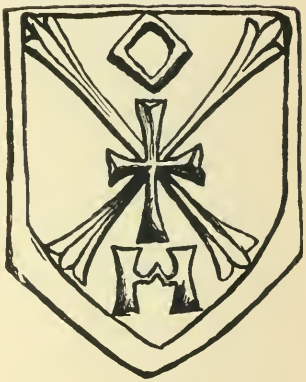


139

117 repeated.

STAMPS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

parts of the kingdom frequently in company with stamps known to campanists as

Royal Heads. These "Royal Heads" are supposed to have originally belonged to London founders, and have been assigned, from peculiarities of treatment, to Edward I. and Queen Eleanor, Edward III. and Queen Phillippa, Henry VI., Margaret of Anjou, and her son Prince Edward. Those assigned to Edward III. and Queen Phillippa (figs. 110 and 112 on *Plate XVI.*) are the only two found in Lincolnshire: they occur upon several bells in addition to those mentioned on p. 106, and it should be observed that so late as 1787 one (fig. 110) occurs on the 1st bell at Wellingore, cast in that year by George Hedderly of Nottingham.

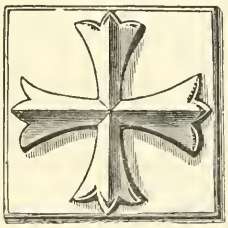
In company with the Royal Heads at Edlington (3rd), Marton (1st), Wellingore (3rd), and Haltham-on-Bain (3rd), is the shield fig. 137 on *Plate XX*), which is also on bells at Barnetby-le-Wold (2nd), Burton-by-Lincoln (single), Burwell (2nd), Edlington (2nd), Grimoldby (3rd), Immingham (1st), Kelsey South (3rd), Linwood (2nd and 3rd), and Roxby-cum-Risby (3rd). At Wellingore there is in addition another stamp of the Virgin and Child, fig. 136 engraved on *Plate XX.* This stamp is found upon the 2nd bell at Wanlip, Leicestershire, cast by John of York, who supplied several bells to Leicestershire churches, and his name is also found in Northamptonshire. We can arrive at the approximate date of the shield fig. 137 from the date—1500—which is said to have been on a bell upon which it formerly appeared at Grasby, recast in 1873. A similar

shield fig. 139 is found on the 2nd bell at Belton and on the 2nd at Scothorne. The initials are most probably those of Henry Oldfield, the letters and cross at Scothorne being precisely similar to those on Wragby 3rd bell, which has his ordinary stamp fig. 113 (see *Plate XVI.*).

It should be noticed that of the inscriptions on the sixteen bells with these shields figs. 137 and 139, four commence with IN NOMINE, &c., and seven with the Holy Name of IHS: the same remark applies to similar bells in Leicestershire.

Again as before stated (see p. 107) on the 2nd bell at Fenton, dated 1596 occurs—with the Oldfields' stamp fig. 113—the initial cross fig. 117 reproduced on *Plate XX.*, which is a well known Nottingham stamp: it is also found upon ancient bells at Friesthorpe (3rd), Holton-le-Beckering (1st on a lozenge shaped block), Laceby (1st), and Manton (single): on the latter bell it is accompanied with a kind of mason's mark fig. 138. It (fig. 117) is also on several modern, and dated, bells.

Bells of "S S." There are a number of bells in Lincolnshire with no inscription beyond the letter S repeated in company with some founder's stamps. The meaning of this letter S is uncertain. It probably means *Sanctus*, not the Tersanctus, for the number varies, two being found on many bells, three on some, and four on others. In all cases the cross fig. 140 here engraved is repeated with the letter S. This will be found to be the case on



140

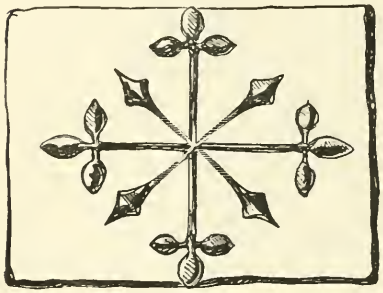
Bassingthorpe 3rd, Brigsley 2nd, Legbourn 2nd, Quarrington 2nd, and on the 1st and 2nd bells at Raithby-by-Spilsby: more frequently, however, this cross and the letter S are accompanied by the Rose and Shield (see figs. 107 and 127 on p. 114), one being usually placed over the other, as on the 1st bell at Barnoldby-le-Beck, the 2nd at Boothby Graffoe, the single bell at Bucknall, the 1st at Covenham S. Bartholomew, the 1st at Faldingworth, the 2nd at Friesthorpe, the 1st at Great Gonerby, the 1st at Grayingham, the 4th at Harlaxton, the 1st at Hemswell, the 4th at Leasingham, the 3rd at Normanby near Spital, and on the 3rd at S. John Baptist, Stamford: on Dunsby 2nd, fig. 107, and on Toynton S. Peter 1st, fig. 127 are omitted.

All these are pre-Reformation bells, and none of them are dated, but as we know that figs. 107 and 127 belonged to the Nottingham founders (see p. 113), we have no hesitation in assigning these "S S" bells to them. The letter S as used on these bells will be found fig. 178 on *Plate No. XXVI.*

Tudor Badges. There is another cluster of bells, seven in number, in near proximity to each other, upon each of which occur some of the stamps figs. 141—145 drawn on *Plate XXI.* These seven bells are Barnetby-le-Wold 3rd, with figs. 142, 143, and 144; Burton-on-Stather 1st, Elsham 2nd, the Priest's at East Halton, Horkstow 1st, and Somerby near Brigg 2nd, with figs. 141, 142, 144, and 145; and South Ferriby 3rd with figs. 142, 143, 144, and 145. Upon the bells at Elsham, East Halton, and Somerby there is no inscription whatever, on the other four bells the

the stamps are associated with scraps of the black letter alphabet oddly mixed up, in two cases, of capitals and "smalls," as is shown by fig. 146, which is a reduced copy of the full inscription on the bell at Burton-on-Stather. The Horkstow bell is dated 1578, and so gives, (what is no doubt), the approximate date of the series.

There are two other bells of this date upon which the same mixed jumble of letters appear—Riby 3rd and Wrawby 1st—the latter dated 1581: upon neither of these, however, occur the Tudor Badges, but each bears the initial



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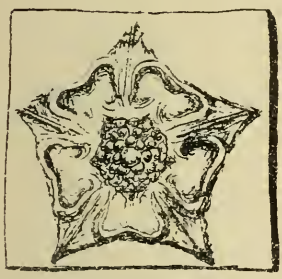
148

cross fig. 147, and the latter in addition the shield fig. 148, both here engraved. (Arms of Clare College Cambridge

Tudor Badges were in the hands of Henry Oldfield of Nottingham, as we know from certain bells of his in Leicestershire.* I suspect he was the founder of these Lincolnshire bells: which suspicion is strengthened by finding on the 3rd bell at Gunby S. Peter, in company with

* See 4th bell at Kegworth and the 3rd at Muston in *Church Bells of Leicestershire.*

141



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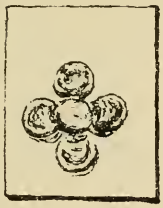

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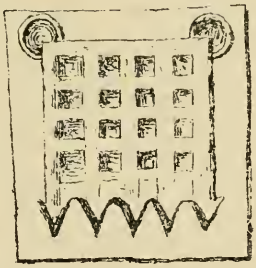

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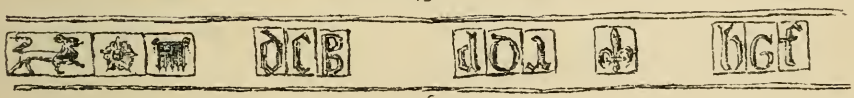

146

STAMPS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

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the Rose and Shield figs. 107 and 127 (which undoubtedly belonged to the Nottingham founders) a series of capital gothic letters of the same character as those on the bells with the Tudor Badges, and, like them, clumsily placed, some of them, upside down.

"TRINITATE" BELLS. Again there are eight other bells in Lincolnshire, all from the same foundry, which may be so designated from the inscription they bear:—

Hec Campana Sacra Fiat Trinitate Beata.

These eight bells are Burgh 5th, Haxey 6th, East Kirkby 2nd, Laughton 3rd, Lincoln S. Mark's single, Metheringham 5th, Ruskington 3rd, and Spilsby 6th. Other bells have the same inscription, but they do not belong to this set. Although these eight bells all bear the same inscription it is not always in the same order, for whilst the capital letters are each from separate stamps, the small letters of each word are from a single block, and so although the order of the words could be, and was altered, the same spelling was necessarily always preserved. These bells, and similar ones in other counties, have, since Mr. Fowler called attention to them,* created some interest among bell students because of the uncertainty of their founder; because, by them, the passing on of bell stamps from one founder to another for three hundred years can be traced; and, thirdly, because certain initials H D which appear upon some of them, and upon other bells of the same date

* In *Yorks. Arch. Journal*, vol. II. 61.

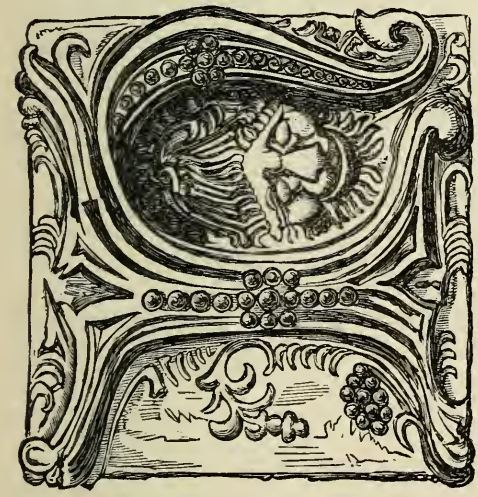
and from the same foundry, have hitherto baffled enquiries as to their owner.

Taking these points in their order, although it was suspected that these Lincolnshire examples, and some others like them, were from the Nottingham foundry, it was reserved for the 3rd bell at Ruskington, dated 1593, to declare the fact with certainty; that bell bears, as we have already seen, fig. 105 (see p. 104) used by Quernbie and Oldfield, who in the same year cast the tenor bell of S. Hugh's ring, and four "Lady Bells" for Lincoln Cathedral."* Mr. Fowler says "These letter-stamps were certainly made originally for some fifteenth century founder, probably at York, as they have only been found with their earliest trade marks in Yorkshire, Durham, and Northumberland. It seems likely that a Nottingham founder, possibly an ancestor, or, at least, a predecessor, of the Oldfields, who cast so many bells in Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire before and after 1600, had become possessed of the original stamps, or copies of them made by casting." However that may have been the letters are found on a bell at Sedgefield, Durham, cast *circa* 1450; we then find them, to quote only dated bells, at S. Mark's, Lincoln, on a bell (removed from S. Benedict's) dated 1585, at Burgh in 1589, at Ruskington, as just mentioned, with the founders' names, in 1593, at Laughton in 1607, and lastly on the 6th bell at

* Since writing the above I have seen Mr. Fowler's additional notes on these bells (*Yorks. Arch. Journal*, II. 193), in which he also shows the founder must have been Henry Oldfield.

Spilsby, cast by Daniel and Thomas Hedderly, in 1744: thus showing that the same stamps and letters were used by a succession of founders for three centuries.

150



149

With regard to the initials H D—figs. 149 and 150 here engraved—which are found on the Burgh bell just mentioned, and on the 2nd bell at Ewerby, the 2nd at South Hykeham, the 3rd at Lavington, and the 4th at Corby, it should be observed that the first initial is the letter H from the word Hec, and the second is the letter C (reversed to do duty as a D) from the word Campana of the *Trinitate* inscriptions, thus showing, as already stated, that these capitals were separate stamps. That these two letters are not the initials

of the master founder we now know; that they occur too often to be those of a donor or benefactor is quite evident, neither can they, for the same reason, represent the name of Vicar or any other official of the place in which they are found. The most probable supposition is that they are the initials of a foreman, or of some one connected with the foundry, who thus, in a modest way, wished to hand down a memorial of his share in the work of casting some of the finest bells in the county. This supposition is well nigh proved to be correct by a reference to the pedigree of the Quernbie and Mellour families opposite page 125, where we find that Robert Quernbie, the partner of Henry Oldfield in the casting of the Ruskington bell, married Frances, the daughter of Henry Dand: what more probable than that Henry Dand was connected with the foundry, and so placed his initials—using for that purpose two of Oldfield's elaborate capitals—upon such of the bells as were cast specially under his superintendence?*

Two of these ornate capitals, G and H, are used as initial letters to the inscriptions on the 1st and 2nd bells at Scotter, dated 1692; and the letter H from the same set, with stamps from the Nottingham foundry, is on the single bell at Pilham.

There are a few more late sixteenth century stamps which were in the hands of the Nottingham founders.

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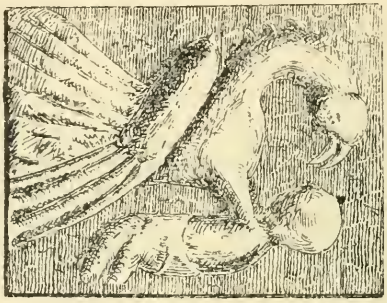
* Since writing the above my supposition has been strengthened by the finding that mention is made of Harry Oldfield and Harry Danne, bellfounders, of Nottingham, in the books of Shrewsbury Abbey Church, in 1591.



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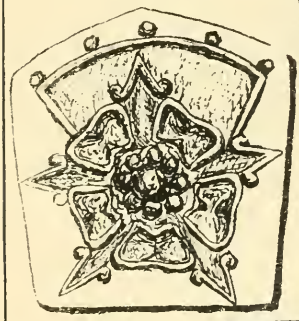

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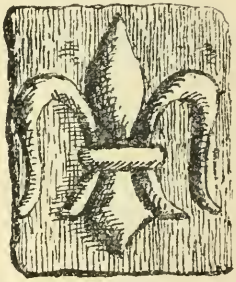

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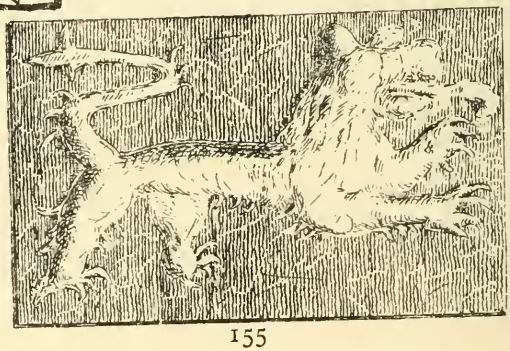

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STAMPS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

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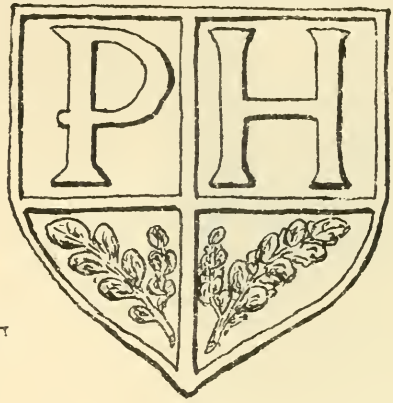

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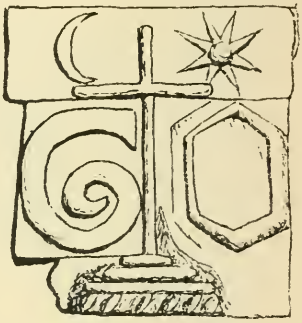

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158

STAMPS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

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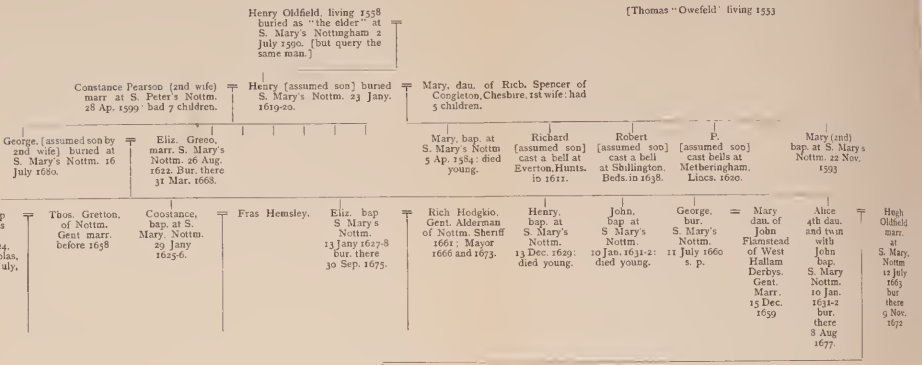
PEDIGREE (PARTLY REQUIRING CONFIRMATION) OF THE OLDFIELD FAMILY.



[The extracts from Registers kindly supplied to me by Captain A. E. Lawson Lowe, F S A]

On the 5th bell at Winteringham is the Tudor Rose fig. 152 on *Plate XXII.*, in company with "The Eagle and Child," fig. 151, and the Fleur-de-lys 154 which is a Nottingham stamp. The Eagle and Child is also upon the 3rd bell at Marsh Chapel, dated 1584, and upon the 4th at Ulceby, dated 1583, upon both of which is also the Tudor Rose ensigned with a crown fig. 153, which is also on the tenor bell at Lavington—a Nottingham bell. Ulceby has, in addition the fleur-de-lys fig. 154 as at Winteringham, also the stamp fig. 155 found in Lincolnshire only on this bell. The fleur-de-lys, fig. 154, is also on the 3rd bell at Silk Willoughby, and the comparatively modern bells (2nd, 3rd, and 4th) at Irnham, all undoubtedly Nottingham bells.

Without positively asserting that these inferences lead, in every case, to the correct foundry, it may be said, until the contrary is shown, that the ancient bells in Lincolnshire bearing the founders' stamps figs. 105 to 155 both inclusive, were supplied to their several churches by Nottingham founders.

From the year 1600 till the year of his death, 1620, Henry Oldfield (2nd) continued sending many bells into Lincolnshire: Ropsley 1st, being the last supplied by him in 1620. He did not place his name upon his bells, but they are readily distinguished by the presence of one or more of his distinctive stamps already described. He was, as will be seen by reference to the annexed Pedigree, married twice, having at least five children by his first wife, and seven by the second: the baptisms of two only of these have yet been found in the Registers of S. Mary's,

Nottingham, but I find a bell at Everton, Huntingdonshire, cast by Richard Holdfield in the year 1611; Robert Oldfield (according to the Churchwardens' Accounts preserved there) cast a bell for Shillington, Bedfordshire, in 1638, he being, apparently, at that time established at Hertford; and on the 4th bell at Metheringham in this county, cast in 1620, bearing an inscription in the Nottingham letters, is the usual Nottingham initial cross fig. 116 with the shield-like stamp fig. 156 on *Plate XXIII.*, bearing the letters P. H. perhaps the initials of Philip Holdfield: the same stamp is also upon the 2nd bell at Burton-on-Stather, dated 1622; the 3rd and 5th at Metheringham, dated 1620; and the 2nd at Rauceby, dated 1621. It is very probable that Richard, Robert and P. Oldfield were sons of Henry, but there is no proof forthcoming at present.

Upon the death of Henry Oldfield, in 1620, the foundry passed into the hands of his son

George Oldfield the register of whose baptism has not been found, but who is assumed to have been one of the second family. He sent a goodly number of bells into Lincolnshire dating from 1620 at Frampton (5th) and other places, to 1674 at Barrow-on-Humber (4th). He very rarely placed his name on his bells: it appears on the 1st bell at S. Nicolas, Leicester, cast in 1656; and as rarely his initials, which, however, are upon the 6th bell at Appleby in this county, one on either side of the Nottingham stamp fig. 116 (p. 107). He more generally used either the stamp fig. 159 here engraved, which occurs only once in this county—on the 5th bell at Great Ponton, dated 1667—

or the one fig. 157 on the annexed *Plate XXIII.*, which is found on very many bells. It will be observed that the stamp fig. 159 is his father's old one, with the first initial H (of which the head and tail appear) altered to G. He soon gave up the use of the old initial cross fig. 116, which had been used for so many years by the Nottingham founders, but which, doubtless, became to be considered out of fashion: it does not appear in Lincolnshire after the year 1636, when he placed it upon the 2nd bell at Welby.

159

There is a bell at Messingham (3rd) upon which is the stamp fig. 158. This bell does not bear any of the usual Nottingham stamps, but the letters used in the inscription show it to have been cast by George Oldfield.

George Oldfield, who died in 1680, married, in 1622, Elizabeth Green, by whom he had a numerous family (see Pedigree)—three sons, Henry, John, and George, and four daughters. Henry and John died young; George lived longer, was married, and was associated with his father in the foundry, but died, without issue, in 1660—in his father's lifetime. Alice, the fourth daughter and twin with John, was married, in 1663, to one Hugh Oldfield. Who he was is not known: George Oldfield the younger, who, as just stated, died in 1660, left by his Will, dated the 4th of July

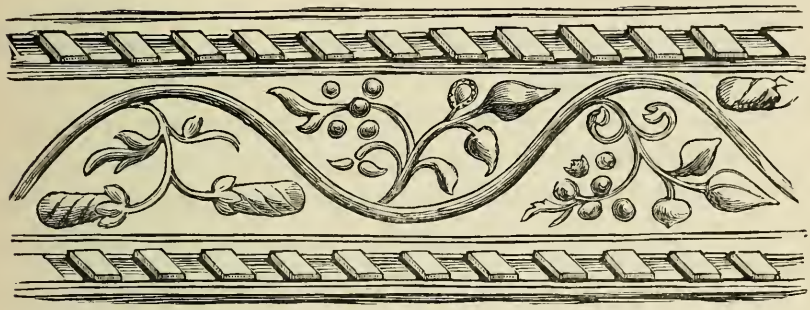
in that year, and proved in the Prerogative Court of York, five shillings to this Hugh Oldfield, but does not describe him as a kinsman. Who carried on the foundry for some years after the death of George Oldfield in 1680 is uncertain: perhaps William Noone, who will be mentioned presently. Hugh Oldfield died in 1672, and Alice his widow in 1677, leaving an only son

George Oldfield (2nd), who was baptized in 1671, and who eventually succeeded to his grandfather's business. He died in 1741, and a headstone, with the following inscription, yet marks his grave on the north side of the churchyard of S. Mary's, Nottingham, not far from the vestry door:

Here
lieth interred the Body of
George Oldfield
Bellfounder. Who died
the 11th day of September
In the year of our Lord 1741
Aged 72.
Also near this Place lieth ye
Body of Elizabeth the Wife
of ye said George Oldfield
She died in April, 1736,
in the 41st year of her Age.

I do not think this George Oldfield did much in the business of the foundry, which appears, before his death, to have passed into the hands of the Hedderlys. The later Oldfields used several floral band ornaments between the

words of their inscriptions: a specimen is here given fig. 160.



160

Daniel Hedderly, living in 1722, described as of Bawtry in the county of York, in an Agreement dated in 1733,* and

Daniel and John Hedderly—whether father and son, or brothers is uncertain—described in another Agreement, dated 1732, as both of the borough of Derby, bellfounders,† sent many bells into Lincolnshire. Daniel Hedderly's bells—upon which he frequently placed his initials instead of his name—date from 1723 at Haxey (3rd) and Leadenham (2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th), to 1759 at Digby (3rd); John Hedderly's name is only on two bells at Carlton-le-Moorland (1st and 2nd) dated 1733, and on one at Louth (4th) dated 1726, where are other bells cast at the same time by Daniel Hedderly, thus showing them to be in partnership. It appears that upon the death of John

* Mr. Tyssen's MS. Col.

† *Reliquary* XIII. 225.

Hedderly, Thomas Hedderly became associated with Daniel in the foundry, for the ring of six bells at Spilsby were cast in 1744 by

DANIEL and THOMAS HEDDERLY as the inscription on the 5th bell testifies.

When the Hedderlys settled at Nottingham I cannot tell, for no one of the nearly eighty bells in this county upon which Daniel Hedderly's name or initials appear is the locality of his foundry given. That it was before the year 1744 is evident from the 6th bell at Spilsby cast in that year, which bears the ancient "*Trinitate*" inscription in the handsome gothic letters already described (see p. 123) as belonging to the Nottingham founders.

THOMAS HEDDERLY, who placed his name upon bells during the lifetime of Daniel, sent a few bells to Lincolnshire, dating from 1743 at Donington (4th) to the date of his death which occurred about the year 1778; he left four sons, Thomas, who died in 1785; George, who emigrated to America about the year 1800; John and Samuel. The two first named were bellfounders; and John, who was also described as a bellfounder, became afterwards a framesmith.

THOMAS HEDDERLY (2nd) supplied a few bells to Lincolnshire dated in 1782; and

GEORGE HEDDERLY sent a bell to Wellingore in 1787, and two to South Witham in 1785.

The Hedderlys became possessed of several ornate stamps belonging to their predecessors. On the 4th bell at Spilsby are two such—one a crown, and the other a shield-

like stamp with three bells; and on the 3rd at Welby, cast by Thomas Hedderly in 1744, are three elaborate stamps, namely, a bird trussing a rabbit on a crest wreath, a bell on an oblong stamp, and a double equilateral triangle in a circle. They generally used coarse Roman letters for their inscriptions, but occasionally as at Appleby (3rd) Daniel Hedderly used a fine gothic capital similar to that on mediæval bells in Yorkshire; and, as at Spilsby, the equally fine gothic black letter and ornate capitals of the earlier Nottingham founders. They occupied, as a foundry, the premises previously occupied by their predecessors, the Oldfields, on the Long Row. It was a tiled building at the top of Bellfounder's Yard, and, having been sold by the Hedderly family about the year 1850, is now converted into a slaughterhouse.

There was another bellfounder at Nottingham about whom little is known,

William Noone, who cast the 5th bell of S. Martin's, Leicester, in 1700. According to the Parish Register of S. Mary's, Nottingham, "Mr William Noone [was] bur. Aug^st^ the 17th 1732." He may have been employed by the Oldfields to carry on the foundry after the death of George Oldfield in 1680, and during the minority of his grandson George, and so have transacted business in his own name.

According to Deering (*Hist. of Nottm.* Sect. v. 94) there were two bellfoundries in the town of Nottingham in 1641, but only one (which would be Hedderly's) when he wrote his work in 1745.

Upon the emigration of George Hedderly to America

about the year 1800, the Nottingham foundry, after being in existence for several centuries, was closed.

PETERBOROUGH.

Henry Penn commenced business here during the last days of the Stamford foundry. He supplied some very fair bells to this and the neighbouring counties. His bells hang in twenty-six Lincolnshire churches and date from the year 1708—he was casting bells several years earlier—when he sent a treble to Kirkby Laythorpe, to the year 1729, when he supplied a whole ring to Bourn.

Although the site of the Peterborough foundry cannot be fixed by reference to any legal document hitherto discovered, there is little doubt about its having been situated on the east side of Broad Bridge Street. Several cottages formerly stood there belonging to the family of Shepheard, some member or members of which married into that of Penn, one of which latter family was Henry Penn the bellfounder. In course of time the old property consisting of the cottages—then called "Rotten Row"—passed from the Shepheards into the possession of a Mr. De-la-Rue, an extensive merchant in Peterborough, who pulled down the cottages, and built a large mansion on the site, which now remains, and is occupied by Dr. Waller.

At the back of these cottages, and in the recollection of persons now living, there were the remains of certain pits which were supposed to have been "tan-pits," but which were more probably connected with the work of the foundry.

At the rear of this property there was—it was filled up about ten years ago—a canal known as "Bell Dyke." It was fed probably from a spring then called "Tom Lock." It was of sufficient size to carry large boats into the river with which it communicated. Its name leads to the inference that this canal was constructed by Henry Penn for the purpose of more readily conveying his bells by water carriage. There is a popular belief (an erroneous one) in Peterborough, that the name originated from "Tom of Lincoln" being conveyed from Peterborough to that city.

The estates of the Penn and Shepheard families were all copyhold of the Manor of Peterborough. The late Mr. James Cattel, the Deputy Steward of the Manor (who very kindly searched the Court Rolls for me), said that whilst he had no doubt that the site just indicated was that of the foundry, the one fact to establish it, namely, the entry of Henry Penn as the occupier, he had not been able to find.

Henry Penn cast some good bells, but not pleasing the people of S. Ives for whom he cast a ring, they instituted a lawsuit against him. The case was tried at the Huntingdonshire Assizes, held at S. Ives, in 1729, and the verdict given in favour of Penn. After the trial, as he was mounting his horse in the Inn-yard at S. Ives, to return to Peterborough, he fell down and died from the effects of over-excitement.

S. NEOTS AND DOWNHAM MARKET.

Joseph Eayre, the son of Thomas Eayre of Kettering (see p. 96), opened a foundry here probably soon after his

baptism at Kettering as "an adult person" in the year 1731, for he sent a ring of bells to Chatteris, Cambridgeshire, in 1735, and on the 1st November, 1736, his marriage is thus noted in the Kettering register:—

Mr. Joseph Eayre *of S. Neots* and Mrs. Sarah Soame of Kettering.

He sent a few bells to Lincolnshire dating from 1762, when he supplied the present ring of six to S. Michael's, Stamford, to 1770, when he sent bells to Holbeach and Sutton S. Nicolas.

For his foundry he erected a lofty brick building in the form of a bell in the Priory. After his death the business at S. Neots was held jointly for a short time by his late foreman Thomas Osborn, and his cousin Edward Arnold. After they dissolved partnership

Edward Arnold held the foundry at S. Neots, sending however only one bell from thence into Lincolnshire—Langtoft 3rd in 1772. In 1784 he opened his foundry at Leicester (see p. 94), still however keeping on the S. Neots foundry, at least for a short time.

Thomas Osborn, after dissolving partnership with Edward Arnold, set up for himself at Downham Market, from which place he supplied bells now hanging in twenty-six churches in this county. They date from 1783 at Ewerby (3rd) to 1801 at Horncastle (4th) and Spalding (1st and 6th). About the latter date he took into partnership his grandson William Dobson: their joint names as founders occur on the ring of five at Gedney Hill cast in 1804, on the ring at Billinghay cast in 1805, and on the tenor bell at

Sutton S. Nicolas cast in 1806. In that year Thomas Osborn died, after which event the foundry was carried on by that

William Dobson who sent a few bells into this county dating from 1824 at Swaton (1st) to 1831, when he supplied the whole ring at Witham-on-the-Hill, and completed the ring of eight at Great Grimsby. In 1829 he was a candidate for the honour of recasting "Great Tom" of Lincoln. His tender and his letter to the Dean of Lincoln (the latter an amusing composition) are extant, and will be referred to hereafter in the description of the Cathedral bells. Although he had a large connection he was not prosperous in business. In 1833 his foundry passed into the hands of Mr. Thomas Mears of London,* and he himself died at the Charter-house, London (of which he had been made a brother), on the 11th July, 1842, in the sixty-third year of his age.

YORK.

There was a bellfoundry here at an early date. The Bellfounder's window, to the memory of Richard Tunnoc, is an interesting feature in the Cathedral. He was a Bellfounder, and M.P. for the city in 1327.

Bells cast by John of York, are found in the Midland Counties.

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* See a good account of the Downham foundry in L'Estrange's *Church Bells of Norfolk*, p. 48-9.

James Smith of York, living in 1660, was, I suppose, the founder of the 3rd bell at Crowle, dated 1656; it bears the stamps figs. 161, 163, and 166 on *Plate XXIV.*, which stamps, Mr. Fowler informs me are also found at York: the first bears his initials I S, the second has been supposed to have been the stamp of William Carter, a London founder, who died early in the seventeenth century, with whom, it is possible, James Smith served his apprenticeship; the third, impaled, stamp, points to the joint business of bellfounder and brazier. James Smith whose name is upon the 5th bell of Ripon Cathedral, dated 1663, was succeeded by his son

Samuel Smith of York who died in 1709; and he by his son

Samuel Smith (2nd) who was Sheriff of York in 1723, and died in 1731: they both sent bells into Lincolnshire, which date from 1686, at Thornton Curtis (2nd), to 1725 at Killingholme (1st and 2nd). The last-named Samuel Smith lived in Micklegate, York, and had his foundry on Toft Green.* Both father and son placed their stamp fig. 168 on *Plate XXIV.*, upon their bells, with which stamp occasionally occur (though not in this county) figs. 161 and 166, mentioned above.

At the time the Smiths were living at York another foundry was worked there in the hands of the Seller family.

There are a large number of bells in this county—chiefly in the northern part—dating from 1662 at Saxby All Saints'

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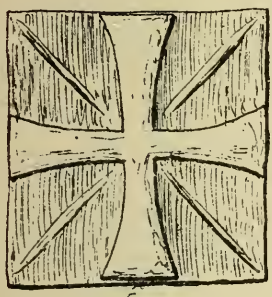
* *Reliquary*, xiv. 103.

161



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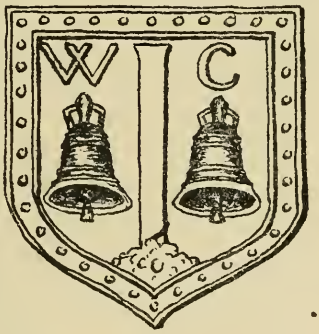

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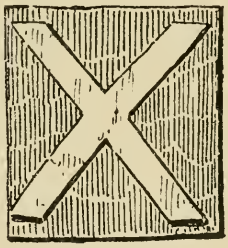

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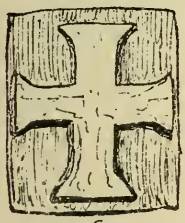

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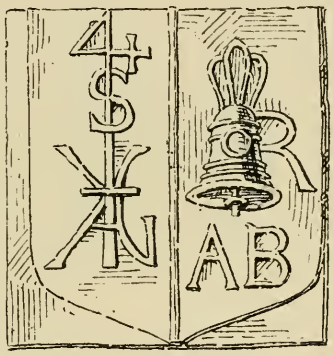
167

168

STAMPS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

Thomas Bell & Son Chromolith.
40, King Street, Covent Garden.

169



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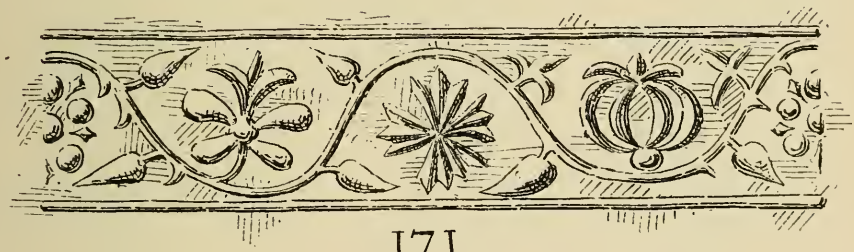
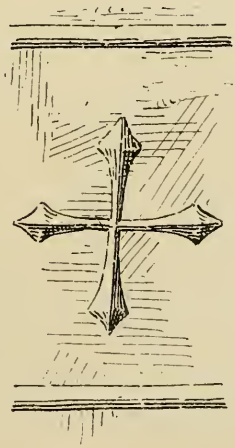


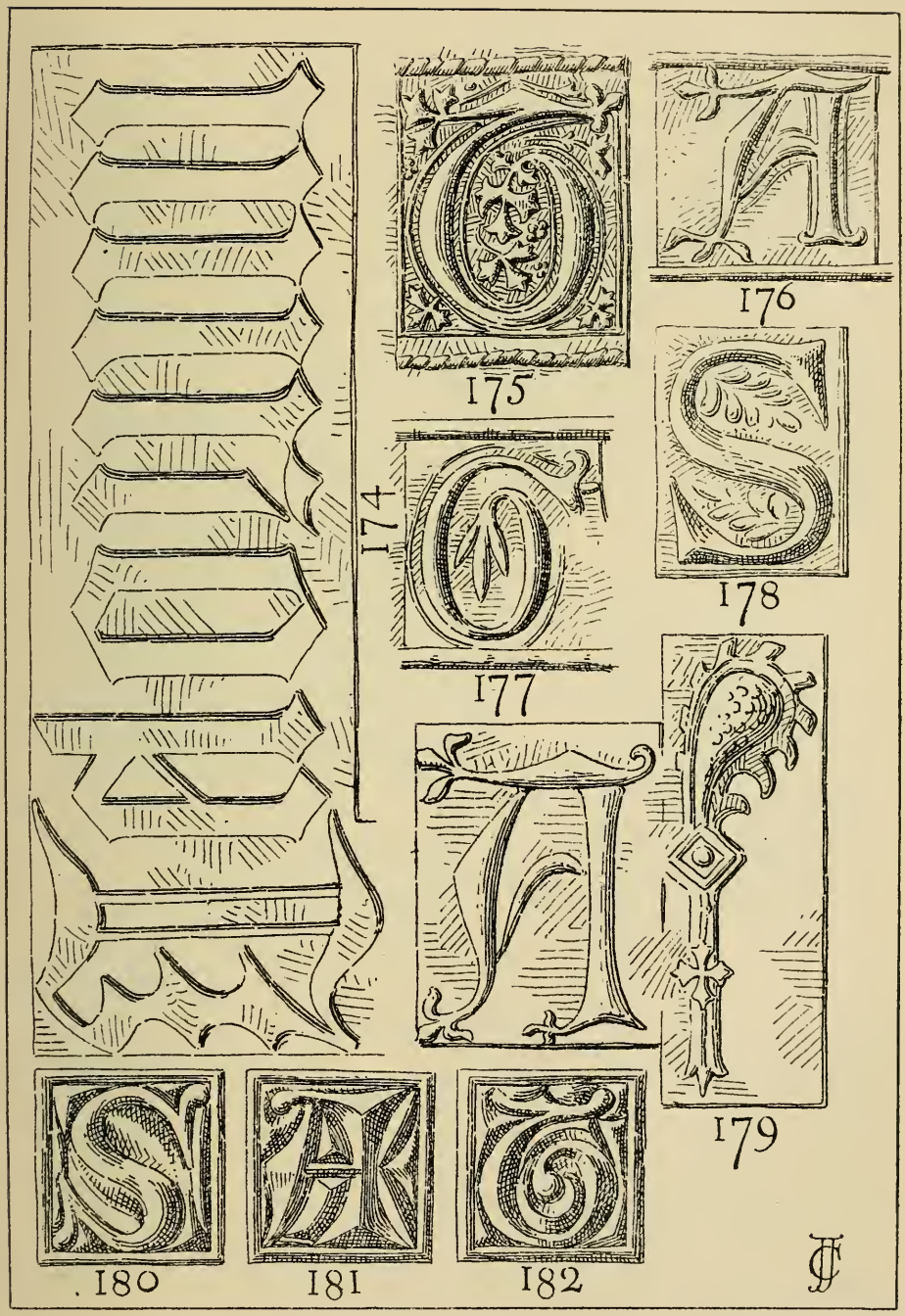
171



172

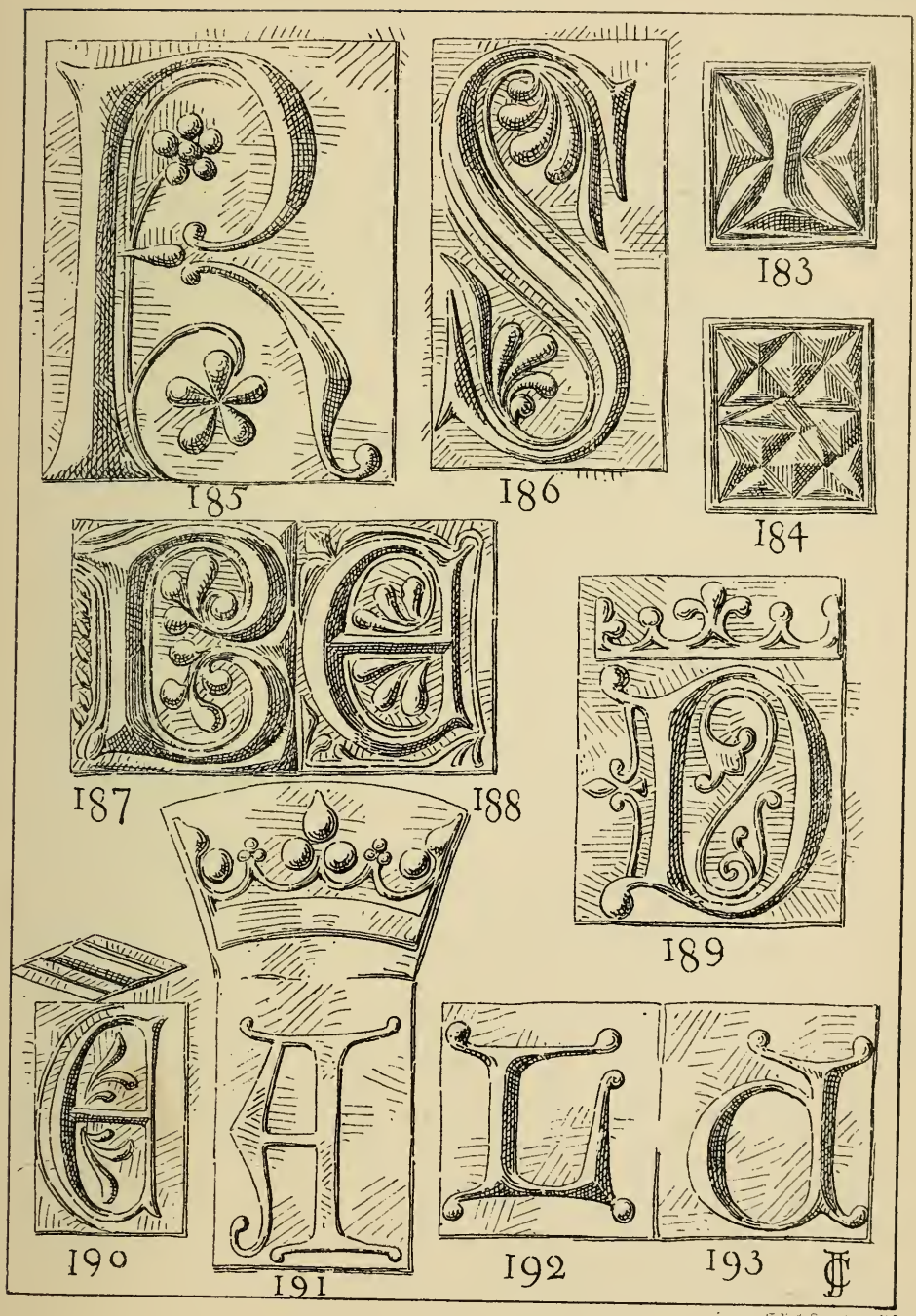
STAMPS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

Thomas Kell & Son, Photolith.
40, King Street, Covent Garden.



LETTERS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE

Thomas Kell & Son, Photolith.
40, King Street, Covent Garden



LETTERS ON BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

Thomas Bell & Son, Photolith
40, King Street, Covent Garden.

(2nd) to 1687, the date of the 3rd bell at Owmby which I attribute to

WILLIAM SELLARS or SELLER Coppersmith and Bell-founder of York.* They bear the initial crosses figs. 162, 165, and, rarely, 164; and occasionally, for a stop, fig. 167, with a band ornament of rose flowers and leaves. Upon the 7th bell at Hagworthingham is the stamp fig. 169, on *Plate XXV.*, in company with the initial cross fig. 162.

The favourite inscriptions of this founder, who, however, frequently placed nothing beyond his initials with stamps and date upon his bells, were "Santitas Domino," "Memento Mori," "God with us," and "Soli Deo Gloria." His bells from 1662 to 1682 have the initials W. S. only; from 1683 to 1687 those initials are accompanied by two others—H. W. These last initials may be those of a foreman or of an apprentice. It is unnecessary to enumerate this founder's bells now remaining in Lincolnshire, as they all bear either his initials, or are readily distinguished by one or more of his stamps just pointed out. He appears to have been succeeded by his son [?]

EDWARD SELLER, who was sheriff of the city in 1703, and died about the year 1724: he sent two bells into Lincolnshire—the 3rd at Althorpe in 1714, and the 6th at

* Of this Founder I know nothing beyond what is furnished in *The Universal Museum and Gentleman and Lady's Polite Magazine* for 1763, in which is a communication relative to Robert Oglebie a Yorkshire centenarian (born at Ripon, 16 Nov. 1654, died at Leeds, Dec. 1768), who at the age of fourteen was apprenticed to "Mr. Wm. Sellars of York, copper-smith and bell-founder."

Barrow-on-Humber, dated 1713: he was succeeded by his son also named

Edward Seller (2nd), who only supplied the 2nd bell at Dunholme to Lincolnshire in 1730. He also was Sheriff of the city in 1731, and died about the year 1764; they both placed their names upon their bells

E Seller
Ebor

cut on a stamp about 2½ inches long.

The York foundry appears next in the hands of

George Dalton, who, in an advertisement in the *York Courant* for the 6th of March, 1764, describes himself as of Lendal Street, York, where he had a commodious foundry and good water carriage for the Ouse and the Humber to the sea. Two bells at Worlabye (1st and 3rd) are from his foundry. He repeated his name

G
DALTON
YORK

within scroll-work frequently on the crown of his bells.

WATH-UPON-DEARNE, YORKSHIRE.

Thomas Hilton of Wath was casting bells there in the year 1774. A few years later—in 1785—

Walker and Hilton sent four bells to Messingham in this county, and in 1794 they supplied the single bell to S. Paul's Church, Lincoln.

Their smaller bells at Messingham are described by Mr. Fowler as being particularly narrow in crown and waist.

Augustine Bowler was paid 39s. 7d. by the churchwardens of Kirton-in-Lindsey for casting their "little bell" in the year 1629. Whether he was a son or other relative of Richard Bowler, a founder who had his head-quarters at Colchester, and was casting bells from 1583 to 1603, I cannot say. There are four bells in this county—Baumber 1st, dated 1638; Cockerington South 3rd, dated 1626; Hibaldstow 2nd, cast in 1635; and Snelland 2nd, in 1647—which bear the founder's stamp fig. 170 on *Plate XXV.*, which may fairly be assigned to this Augustine Bowler; indeed his name, as he no doubt intended, can be pretty clearly made out on his trade mark. Again there are four other bells of about the same date, and with inscriptions in the same letters, with the initials A. B., but without the stamp, which were, no doubt, cast by this founder, namely, Grayingham 3rd, 1640; Saxilby 3rd (this is uncertain); Wildsworth single, 1632; and Haugh single, cast in 1638. Upon the last-named is the pretty band ornament fig. 171 on *Plate XXV.* Two of these eight bells (South Cockerington 3rd and Snelland 2nd) also bear stamps which were in the hands of the Nottingham founders, which may show some connection of Bowler with that foundry.

George Lee was casting bells for Lincolnshire churches early in the seventeenth century.

In 1613 he cast the present 2nd bell at Wellingore, which bears his name in rather ornate mediæval gothic

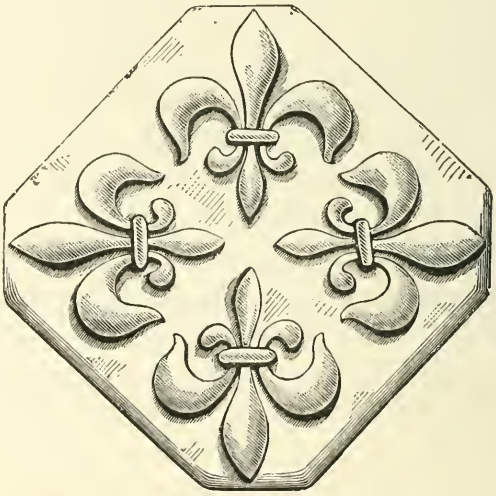
capitals placed on the bell in a clumsy manner—many letters being transposed thus:—

+ MADE BY ME GEORG LEE 1613.

The neat little initial cross fig. 172 is drawn on *Plate XXV.* The churchwardens of Kirton-in-Lindsey employed him in 1615, and made this entry in their accounts:—

" It' layd out to Mr. Lee the belfounder xl^s.

The 3rd bell at Market Stainton, the 2nd at Thorpe on the Hill, and the 3rd at South Willingham may be assigned to this founder whose habitat is not known, but whose connection, in some way, with the Nottingham founders is



173

shown by the use of the band ornament fig. 115 (on *Plate XVII.*) on his bell at Wellingore.

The 3rd bell at Honington tells us that it was made by T. G. in 1673: who he was I do not know: he used as a stamp a plain cross on a shield.

The seventh bell in S. Hugh's steeple, Lincoln Cathedral, cast in 1606, bears fig. 173 as an initial cross: I do not know the founder. Neither do I know the name of the founder of two other comparatively modern bells—the Priest's bell at Binbrook S. Mary, and the single one at Croxby—which bear his initials thus

R. ♙ B.
W.

BIRMINGHAM.

Wm. Blews and Sons have supplied only two bells to Lincolnshire churches: they hang at S. Martin's and S. Andrew's, Lincoln.

James Barwell sent the small bell at S. Saviour's Chapel-of-Ease, Little Gonerby, in 1880.

EAST DEREHAM, NORFOLK.

Joseph Mallows, who was casting bells as early as 1750, had his foundry here. His bells are in three churches in this county—Bennington, Fleet, and Wainfleet S. Mary, dated 1758, 1759, and 1760.

HULL.

The single bell at Waddingworth was supplied by

T. Johnson of Hull, in 1832, who was probably only a whitesmith.

ROTHERHAM.

Joseph Ludlam of Rotherham, who was an ironmonger, whitesmith, and bellhanger, had for his shop an old dilapidated building near to the Grammar School, Rotherham, all long since removed. His name appears in the Accounts of the Feoffees of the Common Lands of Rotherham, 1733—1759. Although he cast a few bells, including one only in this county—the 4th at Thornton Curtis—bell-founding was, apparently, quite an exceptional stroke of business. He is not mentioned amongst the multitudes of interments in the church, but there is no doubt that he died, and was buried, at Rotherham.*

SHEFFIELD.

Naylor, Vickers, and Co. supplied three of their cast-steel bells to Burton Gate in 1865.

MODERN LONDON FOUNDERS.

The Whitechapel Foundry. There are many bells in Lincolnshire from this foundry.

Robert Mot held it from 1578 (and probably a few years

* Ex infor. the late Mr. Guest, F.S.A., the historian of Rotherham.

earlier) to about the year 1608, when he died. From him the foundry passed through several hands until, in the year 1701,

Richard Phelps became its head. He sent three of the present bells to S. Botolph's, Lincoln, in 1723. At his death, in 1738, he left all his bell gear to his foreman

Thomas Lester, who built the present foundry: he sent only one bell into this county, the 3rd at Barrow-on-Humber, dated 1749. He took Thomas Pack into partnership about the year 1752.

Lester and Pack's bells hang in ten churches in Lincolnshire, dating from 1757, at Coningsby and South Ormsby, to 1766, the date of the tenor at Fleet.

About the year 1769 the name of William Chapman, Lester's nephew, appears in the firm as

Lester, Pack, and Chapman, of "The Three bells, Whitechapel, London." Upon the death of Thomas Lester in that year (1769) William Chapman was, in conformity with his uncle's will, taken into partnership with Pack, and so the firm became

Pack and Chapman, who sent bells into Lincolnshire now hanging at Bicker and Grantham. Pack died in 1781: soon after which William Mears joined Chapman, and in his family the foundry continued for many years.

Thomas Mears and Son supplied several bells to Lincolnshire (including complete rings at Hogsthorpe and Kirton in Holland) dating from 1806 at Fleet to 1810 at Langtoft.

Thomas Mears [Jun.] supplied many bells hanging in

twenty-five Lincolnshire churches dating from 1792 at Welton-le-Marsh to 1843 at Sutton S. Matthew.

Charles and George Mears sent bells from 1845 (Belton, Isle of Axholme 4th) till 1857 at Tattershall (3rd).

George Mears and Co. supplied a few bells to Lincolnshire churches the last dated being the ring of six at Nocton dated 1865: soon after which date the foundry passed into the hands of the present sole proprietor.

Robert Stainbank whose name is upon the three bells at North Willingham dated 1868. Mr. Stainbank, however, retains the name of Mears in the firm (Mr. George Mears, his former partner, after being out of business some years, died at Landport, Portsmouth, 12 August, 1873, aged fifty-three) and he under the style of

Mears and Stainbank has sent several bells (including a ring of six to S. Peter at Gowts, Lincoln) dating from 1866 at Skillington (1st) to 1877 at Croft (6th).

The Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate. There are many bells in Lincolnshire from this foundry, dating from 1854, the Priest's at Irby-on-Humber, to 1874 at Brigg (1st and 2nd).

John Warner was in business in the year 1763, as a Bell and Brass Founder, at a house known as the Three Bells and a Star, in Wood Street, Cheapside, London. He had a brother named Tomson Warner, who, after serving his apprenticeship as an ironmonger at Ampthill in Bedfordshire, came to London and joined his brother John in business. Sometime between the years 1763 and 1782 they removed to Fore Street, Cripplegate, near to their old

premises, and also close by the site of the present foundry. In the latter year the brothers dissolved partnership, Tomson remaining in Fore Street and John going to Fleet Street, where he carried on business as a Bellfounder under the name of John Warner and Sons. He sometimes placed his own name on bells—as at Strood, Kent, in 1788, and sometimes that of his firm, as at S. Stephen's, Norwich, in 1796, and at Colby, Norfolk, in 1802. The bell at Cripplegate church was also cast by him. From Tomson Warner (whose eldest son was named John after his uncle) the business has descended to his grandson, Mr. Robert Warner, F.R.H.S., who under the style of

John Warner and Sons is the present proprietor. Prior to 1850 the bells cast by Messrs. Warner were in sand, and did not exceed 18 inches in diameter, but in that year, being established in the present premises, Mr. Warner commenced casting large bells in loam. The foundry stands on ground said to have been occupied by the Jews, and given—upon their banishment in the twelfth century—to the Dean of S. Paul's—hence Jewin Street and Jewin Crescent. The trade mark of the foundry (adopted, I suppose, from the name of the last-mentioned locality) is a bell within a crescent. A handsome band encircles some of the more recent bells cast here, upon which also appear some appropriate inscriptions, in fine gothic letters.*

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* I am indebted to Mr. S. B. Goslin for the above notes on the early history of this foundry.

The Brixton Foundry. Mr. T. C. Lewis, of this new foundry, supplied the ring of eight bells to the church of S. Paul, Spalding, which church was consecrated on the 27th of October, 1880.

A performer playing a Carillon of five Bells, from a MS. said to be of the ninth century.

PECULIAR USES

OF THE

LINCOLNSHIRE BELLS.

THE only direction as to the use of a Church Bell in the Rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer is in that relating to Daily Service :—

> "And the Curate that ministereth in every Parish-Church or Chapel, being at home, and not being otherwise reasonably hindered, shall say the same in the Parish-Church or Chapel where he ministereth, and shall cause a Bell to be tolled thereunto a convenient time before he begin, that the people may come to hear God's Word, and to pray with him."

The Canons give a few more directions:

The 15th, which directs "*Litany to be read on Wednesdays and Fridays*," orders, that warning be "given to the people by tolling of a bell."

The 67th Canon entitled "*Ministers to visit the Sick*" says :—

> "And, when any is passing out of this life, a bell shall be tolled, and the Minister shall not then slack to do his last duty. And after the party's death, if it so fall out, there shall be rung no more than one short peal, and one other before the burial, and one other after the burial."

So much for their use.

The 88th Canon directs churchwardens not to allow the superstitious use of bells upon "Holydays or Eves abrogated by the Book of Common Prayer, nor at any other times without good cause to be allowed by the Minister of the place, and by themselves." And the 111th Canon is directed against such as shall..."by untimely ringing of bells...hinder the Minister or Preacher."

Ringing for Divine Service. Although one bell is all that is really essential for carrying out such of these directions as are now usually followed, it is generally only poverty or some other difficulty, which hinders the erection in our modern churches of a number of bells, with which to ring those peals, in which almost all English churchmen delight. And so it was in more ancient times. It will be seen that in Lincolnshire several of the larger churches had four bells in the reign of Edward VI., and that whilst many had not more than three, scarcely any were satisfied with less than two.

In churches where the Canonical Hours were kept the bells, or some of them, would be ringing very frequently. The Canons made in King Edgar's time (A.D. 960) provided "that the hours be timely notified by ringing [the bells] and that every priest then look out his tide-song in the

church (*i.e.* attend his Canonical Hours), and that prayers be there diligently made in the fear of God and intercession for all people:"* thus "the ringing of these Canonical hours let the world know the time, by day and by night; and in those larger churches where such a custom was followed, the several bells, as well as the different ways in which they were rung for the purpose, told the precise service which was then about to be chanted."† The bells of parish churches were frequently rung by the Deacons. "Now one bell shall be rung, now two, now three, now all the bells in the steeple, by the which diversity of ringing men may the better know when it is festum simplex, or festum duplex, or festum principale."‡ That was the case at Holy Trinity, Coventry, in the year 1462,§ and at the parish church of Ludlow in 1551, when the churchwardens paid twelvepence to "the dekyns for rynginge of day belle."‖ "Bishop Oldham (of Exeter) in his Statutes, 1511, directs how the *Annualarii* (or Chantry Priests) were to sound or toll a certain number of times with one bell then a full tolling of all the bells, at the Canonical Hours, after the accustomed manner; at the close of which the service was to begin."¶ An interesting illustration of this

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* *Johnson's English Canons*, Part I. p. 428.

† Dr. Rock's *Church of our Fathers*, III. part 2, p. 143.

‡ *Becon* III. 534, quoted by Mr. Walcott, *Parish Churches before the Reformation*, p. 8.

§ *Bells of the Church*, p. 276.

‖ *Churchwardens' Accounts of Ludlow* (Camden Soc.) p. 47.

¶ *The Cathedral Bells of Exeter*, p. 13. The Canonical Hours were Prime 6 a.m., Tierce, Mass, at 9 a.m., Sext at Noon, Nones at 3 p.m., Vespers at 6 p.m., Compline at 9 p.m., Matins and Lauds in the early hours between midnight and Prime.

custom is found upon the Font of the Parish Church of Belton in this county, which bears, upon its eight sides, the various officers of the church represented in rude sculpture: one of these is the *campanarius*, who, attired in his camise, is chiming two bells. At the ordination of the *ostiarius* the bell ropes were placed in his hands as well as the keys of the church. In our smaller parish churches, too, those bells appropriated to the side altars in chantry chapels, or belonging to Guilds and Fraternities, would very frequently be sounding.* On Sundays and high-days all the bells appear to have been rung for Matins and Evensong—the two services which all were expected to attend: and so the custom has continued to the present time. The Bell-master of Loughborough, Leicestershire, in the time of Edward VI., was "to help to reng to sarvys if ned be." Hooper, in his Injunctions, dated 1551, whilst forbidding ringing at unseasonable times, adds "but before services, as well morning as at even, to warn people by as many peals or ringings as they think good."

The mode of ringing, or of chiming, for Divine Service varies somewhat in different parishes.

In Lincolnshire the general use is for the bells to be chimed, followed by the ringing of the tenor as a Sermon-bell; after which, in many parishes, a few strokes are given upon the Priest's bell where one exists, or upon the treble

* At Ludlow, in addition to the fore-bell, second bell, third, second-tenor, and great bell, they possessed "Our Lady belle" ("our Lady Chauncelle" is mentioned), "First-Mass-Bell," and "the gild belle," all apparently bells of moderate size. See *Ludlow Churchwardens' Accounts* published by Camden Society.

bell, as a summons to the clergyman. This, however, is varied in some parishes.

At Broughton a full peal is rung; after a pause the bells are lowered; the Sermon-bell is then rung until the time for Divine Service arrives.

At Lincoln S. Peter-at-Gowts, for morning service, some well practised "touches" are rung for twenty-five minutes; then the tenor is rung as the Sermon-bell: the bells are left standing till evening, when they are again rung for service.

At Belton, Isle of Axholme, three peals are rung between 9.30 and 10.15 a.m., and between 5.30 and 6.15 p.m. for the first half of the next fifteen minutes the bells are chimed, followed by the ringing of the 4th bell as a Sermon-bell: so at Skirbeck and Springthorpe ringing generally precedes the chiming for both services on Sunday; at Stow ringing follows the chiming; and at Horncastle there is ringing before Morning Service, but before Evening Service the bells are not raised.

The bells are also always rung, instead of chimed, for Divine Service at Burgh, and occasionally they are so rung at Butterwick, Elsham, Frieston, Leake, Skirbeck, and Thornton Curtis. Sometimes, as at Coleby, the bells are chimed for Matins, but rung for Evensong. At Fleet they are rung on two Sundays in the month.

At Friesthorpe each of the three bells is tolled separately twelve times, then all are chimed, after which the third is tolled alone: a similar plan is followed at Ashby-de-la-Launde, Carlton-le-Moorland, Claypole, Folkingham, Lavington and Welton.

At Gedney Hill the 1st bell is tolled for five minutes; then the 1st and 3rd bells are chimed for five minutes; then all five are chimed for five minutes (fifteen minutes in all). At Lea the treble is rung for fifteen minutes before chiming commences, which is begun by tolling each bell in succession a few strokes, followed by the chiming of all four together for ten minutes: that is succeeded by the ringing of the tenor as the Sermon-bell.

At Fleet the tenor is first rung for fifteen minutes; then—excepting on the Sundays when the bells are rung—all are chimed for fifteen minutes followed by a few strokes on the treble alone: a similar custom is followed at Bourn, Grantham and Halton Holgate.

At South Cockerington the tenor is tolled for five minutes half an hour before service: after a pause of ten minutes the 1st and 2nd bells are chimed for five minutes; after another pause all three are chimed for five minutes, followed by a few strokes (for two minutes) on the treble bell.

At Willoughby the tenor is rung for a short time an hour before service, and called the Sermon-bell: all the bells are chimed for twenty minutes for service, after which the tenor "rings in" for five minutes.

At Sutton-le-Marsh the tenor is tolled three times for five minutes each time, with an interval of five minutes between each tolling: then all are chimed for ten minutes followed by the Priest's bell for a few minutes.

At Croyland and at Morton the bells are chimed with the tenor "rung in."

At Bonby, after chiming for fifteen minutes, the tenor is

sounded for two minutes, followed by three strokes on the treble.

At Caistor the 3rd bell (of six) is rung for ten minutes after the chiming for twenty minutes.

At East Kirkby (where are two bells) the larger is sounded for ten minutes; then the smaller for five minutes, excepting on Christmas and Easter days, when both are chimed together for ten minutes followed by the treble alone for five minutes.

At Navenby the treble is first rung for fifteen minutes followed by chiming for ten minutes: then the tenor is rung for five minutes as a Sermon-bell.

At North Owersby the ringing of the large bell commences three quarters of an hour (and rings for fifteen minutes) before service time: then no more ringing until about five minutes before the commencement of Divine Service, when the Priest's bell is sounded.

At Irnham, where there are four bells, the custom is to chime the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd: then raise the tenor: then again to chime the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, after which the tenor is lowered as a Sermon-bell.

At Kirkby Laythorpe they first chime the 1st and 2nd bells, and afterwards all three.

At Sleaford each bell is chimed *seriatim* twice round: then all are chimed together: the tenor is next tolled followed by chiming again, at the end of which the 2nd bell is rung up, and then lowered at the time for commencing Divine Service.

At Theddlethorpe S. Helen a bell is rung for five

minutes an hour before service commences: followed after a time, by chiming in the ordinary manner, with the treble alone at the close.

At Louth the eight bells are raised for the 10.30 Morning Service, and rung from 9 till 10 o'clock, after which the 3rd, 4th, and 5th bells are chimed till 10.20: the tenor is then raised and rung for five minutes, after lowering which the treble is raised and rung for five minutes, being "settled" at 10.30. For the Afternoon Service the eight bells are chimed, after which the treble is raised and rung for five minutes. For Evening Service the eight bells are again chimed for twenty minutes, followed by the ringing of the tenor for five minutes, and then by the ringing of the treble for the same length of time.

Ringing before Divine Service has long been the custom at Louth: at a Vestry, held on the 20th April, 1781:—

> It was ordered and agreed that the Ringers do attend at the Church every Sunday in the morning and evening; in the morning at 10 o'clock, and in the evening at 3 o'clock, and ring a peal on the bells half-an-hour, and then chyme in the bells, for which they are to be allowed four pounds in the year to begin on Sunday next.

In 1792 it was agreed that the Ringers should continue the ringing in the morning, but the bells were to be only chimed in the afternoon.*

At Saxilby it is the custom to strike the day of the month upon one of the bells immediately before the commencement of Divine Service.

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* *Vestry Book.*

On the Great Festivals the call to Divine Service is rung instead of chimed at Fleet, Holbeach All Saints, S. Botolph's, Lincoln, and Marsh Chapel; at Winterton the bells on those days are rung not only for Matins and Evensong, but also for the early celebration of the Holy Communion; and at Lea on those days a peal is rung before the usual chiming.

These examples show the diversity of usage in different parishes: no doubt ancient customs have, in very many cases, been departed from; for though the Parish Clerks were, like that officer at Barrow-on-Humber in 1713, expected to "tole a bell and ring a little according to the custom of the place,"* their respect for precedent was, doubtless, in many cases not so strong as that shown by the present Clerk at Thornton-le-Moor: there are in the Church there two bells, but it has always been the custom to ring only the small bell for service on Sundays "the large bell being," as the clerk observes, "reserved as a death-bell:" and though the small bell is now cracked, he still persists in ringing that, and that only, for Divine Service.

Early Sunday Peals. With the introduction of the "new sarvis" (as the Book of Common Prayer was called) in the time of Edward VI., the singing of the Canonical Hours—with the exception of Matins and Evensong—was dropped. The only traces of them we now have in the use of our church bells, excepting the ringing or chiming for Morning and Evening Prayer, are in the ringing of the

* His "*Duties*" in MS.

"first and second peals" on Sunday Mornings, at seven and eight, or eight and nine o'clock, in very many parishes. In Pre-Reformation times Matins was said in all parish churches before breakfast, as a preparation for mass. The "first peal" was the call to Matins, the "second peal" to tierce and mass.* It is a curious proof how tenacious custom is in having continued the ringing of these bells for over three hundred years after the purposes they served were abrogated, and when few even think of, or enquire as to, the meaning of their sound. For these "peals" (which are rung in many Lincolnshire parishes) the smaller bells are generally used.

The mode of ringing varies:—

At Market Deeping the 1st bell is rung at 7 a.m.; the 2nd and 3rd bells at 9 a.m.

At Market Rasen the 2nd bell is tolled at 8 a.m.; the 2nd and 3d at 9 a.m.

At Langtoft a single bell is rung at 8 a.m.; two or more are chimed at 9 a.m.

At Gedney the 1st is rung at 7 a.m.; the 1st and 2nd chimed at 8 a.m.

At Bourn the 2nd is rung at 8 a.m.; the 3rd and 4th at 9 a.m.

At Caistor the 3rd bell is rung at 8 a.m. and again at 9 a.m.; and at Coningsby and Stickney a single bell is rung at the same hours.

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* Sir Thomas More said "Some of us laye men think it a payne ones a weeke to ryse so soon fro sleepe, and some to tarye so longe fasting, as on the Sonday to com and heare out theyr matins."—*Rock*, III. part 2, pp. 5, 143, 146.

At Swineshead the 2nd bell is tolled at 8 a.m.; and the 5th and 6th at 9 a.m.

At Westborough the 1st bell is rung at 7 a.m., the 2nd at 8 a.m.; and at Corringham, formerly, a bell was rung at those hours.

At Branston the 1st is rung at 8 a.m.; the 2nd at 9.30 a.m.

At Aswardby the 1st is rung at 8 a.m.; the 2nd at 9 a.m.

At Halton Holgate the 1st is rung at 7.30 a.m.; the 1st and 2nd at 8 a.m.

At Redbourne a single bell is rung at 8 a.m., and again at 9 a.m.

At Bennington the 1st is rung at 8 a.m., and again at 10 a.m.

At Sleaford formerly the 1st bell was rung at 7, and again at 8 a.m., but there being now an Early Celebration the 1st bell summons to that at 7.45; and the 1st and 2nd, which are chimed at 8.45 a.m., are considered a summons to Sunday School, which commences at 9.30 a.m.

At South Kelsey the tenor is sounded at 8 a.m., and again at 9 a.m.

At Fleet the treble is rung at 8 a.m., after which forty strokes are given on the tenor: the 1st and 2nd bells are chimed at 9 a.m.; and at Billinghay the same ringing (but without the strokes on the tenor) takes place.

At Doddington the single bell is rung at 8.30, and again at 9.30 a.m.

At Heckington a single bell is rung at 7 a.m., and again —called the Matins' bell—at 9 a.m.

At Morton when there is a Celebration of the Holy Communion the 1st bell is rung at 8 a.m., the 3rd and 4th are chimed at 8.30, and the 3rd, 4th, and 5th at 9 a.m. When no Celebration the 1st is rung at 8 a.m., and the 3rd and 4th are chimed at 9. The day of the month is given on the tenor bell every Sunday morning.

The two Early Peals have, in very many parishes, merged into one: thus one bell is sounded at 7 a.m. at Halton West (2nd), North Kelsey, Navenby, Owston—where it was, until recently, also rung at 8 a.m.—Pinchbeck East (3rd), Spalding (3rd), Wellingore (1st), and Waddington; one bell is rung at Aslackby at 7.30 a.m., but eight o'clock is the more usual time: at that hour one bell is chimed or rung at

Allington, Althorpe, Appleby, Aylesby, Barholm, Barrow-on-Humber, Bassingthorpe, Belton near Grantham, Bennington Long, Bitchfield, Blyborough, Blyton, Boothby Graffoe, Broughton Brant, Butterwick, Burton-on-Stather, Burton Coggles, Carlton Scroop, Claypole, Colsterworth, Cranwell, Denton, Deeping S. James, Eagle, Edenham, Ewerby, Fishtoft, Frieston, Frampton, Fulbeck, Gedney Hill, Gosberton, Grayingham, Haceby, Hemswell, Honington, Keddington, Kirkby Laythorpe, Kirton-in-Lindsey, Lacey, Lavington, Leake, Leasingham, Leverton, Morton-by-Gainsborough, Newton-on-Trent, Newton, Normanton, Orby, Owmby, Potterhanworth, Ponton Great, Ruskington, Scotter, Scopwick, Stockwith East, Stragglethorpe, Stubton, Swinderby, Tallington, Tetney (the Priest's), Thorpe-on-the-Hill, Washingborough, Welbourn, Willoughby-by-Stow, Willoughby Silk, Winterton, and formerly, but not now, at Coleby, Hibaldstow, Tydd S. Mary, and Winteringham.

In these parishes the treble or one other of the smaller bells is used, but the tenor is used at Amcotts, Caythorpe, Claxby, Goxhill, Ludborough and Ulceby; at Lincoln, S. Peter-at-Arches the 5th bell is used, and at Harlaxton the 2nd is rung at 8 o'clock, succeeded by a short chiming of the 1st and 2nd. At Sibsey the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd bells are chimed at 8 a.m. excepting when Holy Communion is to be administered, when the chiming is at 7 a.m. and again at 9 a.m. At Sutterton the day of the month is tolled every Sunday morning at 8 a.m. At Weston S. Mary the three bells are chimed at 8 a.m. At Horncastle the 1st and 2nd; or the 3rd and 4th are chimed at 9 a.m. At the same hour a single bell—the treble or one of the smaller bells—is rung at Addlethorpe (where formerly the 1st bell was rung at 8, and the 2nd and 3rd at 9 a.m.), Billingborough, Binbrook, Broughton, Helpringham, Hemingby, Hundleby, Spilsby, North Scarle, Thornton Curtis, Witham-on-the-Hill, and formerly at Utterby. At Croyland, where the custom formerly was to ring the 1st bell at 7 a.m., the 1st and 2nd bells are now chimed at 9 a.m., and the same custom is followed at Hale Magna. At Mumby the Priest's bell is rung at 8 a.m. At Haxey the tenor is rung at 7 a.m. and again at 8 a.m. and is called the Sermon-bell: at Fiskerton the tenor, which is rung at 8 a.m., is also called the Sermon-bell "because it is rung whenever there is to be a sermon during the day:" at Laughton also the 8 a.m. bell is called the Sermon-bell. At Belton, Isle of Axholme, the treble is rung at 8 a.m. after which 5, 6, 7, and 8 strokes are given upon the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th bells respectively. At

Aisthorpe all five bells are rung or else chimed according to the number of ringers present at 8 a.m. At Baston the 1st and 2nd bells are chimed at 8 a.m.: and at Donington the same bells are chimed at 9 a.m. At Barkeston the 1st bell is rung at 8.30 a.m. At Burton-by-Lincoln and at Ingoldsby a bell is rung at 8 a.m. after which the day of the month is tolled. At Bicker the same occurs after the ringing of a bell at 7 a.m. in summer and 8 a.m. in winter. At Castle Bytham the 1st and 2nd bells are chimed at 9 a.m.: the two bells meaning, says the clerk, two services. At Limber the bells are chimed at 8 a.m. At Moulton three bells are chimed at 8 a.m., and at Long Sutton the same number of bells at 9 a.m. At Rippingale the 3rd and 4th bells are chimed at 9 a.m. At Revesby the single bell is sounded at 8 a.m. "to enable the parishioners to set their clocks right for the day." At Hogsthorpe the custom was, until recently, to ring one bell at 8 a.m.; again at 9 a.m.; and again at 10 a.m. (traditionally said to have been originally so rung for Matins, Litany, and Holy Communion respectively) at which time the morning service then began: there are no early peals now. At Burgh the 1st and 2nd bells are chimed at 8 a.m., after which the tenor is raised, the whole taking five minutes.

These Early Peals are now frequently considered as notices of services which are to follow later on in the day: indeed in some parishes they are distinctly so used, for example:—

At Scothorne the 1st bell is rung at 8 a.m., after which the day of the month is tolled on the 2nd bell, and when

morning service is to be said the 2nd is rung at 9 a.m. At Welton the 2nd bell is rung at 8.30 a.m. when there is to be morning service; at 12.30 when afternoon service. At Westborough the 1st is rung at 7 and the 2nd at 8 a.m. when there is to be morning service; the 1st at 11, and the 2nd at noon, when only afternoon service. At Dunsby a bell is rung at 8, and again at 9 a.m. when morning service is to follow. At Doddington Dry the single bell is rung at 7, and again at 8 a.m., when Matins and Evensong are to be said; at 11 a.m. and again at noon when only Evensong. At Carlton-le-Moorland, Northorpe, Swarby, Torksey and Walcott, a bell is rung at 8 a.m. when there is to be morning service: at noon when only Evensong, the tenor being used at Walcott. At Wootton the 2nd bell is rung at 8 a.m. excepting when there is to be only evening service when it is rung in the afternoon. At Corby the 1st bell is sounded at 8, and the 1st and 2nd at 10 a.m., when Matins are to be said, the same at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., when only Evensong. At Irby-on-Humber a bell is rung at 8 a.m., "to let the people know of morning service" and again at 10 a.m. "to tell of afternoon service." At Irnham the 1st and 2nd bells are rung at 10 a.m. when only morning service: the same at 2 p.m. when afternoon service: at North Witham the same bells are rung at 8 a.m. when there is to be morning service, at noon when only Evensong. At Bonby, Cotes Magna, and Nettleton, the tenor bell is rung at 8 a.m., and a bell is rung at Cammeringham at 9 a.m. only when there is to be morning service.

At Stamford there is much early ringing: at All Saints'

the custom is between 7 and 8 a.m. to chime three bells, then toll the tenor: a quarter of an hour after which the 3rd and 4th, then the 4th and 5th bells are chimed, followed by another tolling of the tenor. At S. George's between 8 and 9 a.m. they first chime the 1st and 2nd, then the 2nd and 3rd bells, followed by a tolling of the tenor. At S. John Baptist's the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd bells are chimed at 7.30 a.m.: at 8.30 the tenor is tolled for early Celebration. At S. Mary's between 8 and 9 a.m. the 3rd and 4th, then the 5th and 6th bells are chimed, followed by a tolling of the tenor. At S. Michael's two bells are chimed at 8 a.m.

The Sermon Bell. In the "Rites of Durham" is this reference to the Sermon-bell:—"Every Sounday in the yere there was a sermon preached in the Galleley at afternoone, from one of the clocke till iij; and at xij of the clocke the great bell of the Galleley was toulled every sounedaie iij quarters of an houre, and during the fourth quarter till one of the clock, that all the people of the towne might have warnyng to come and here the word of Gode preched."* The Royal Injunctions of 1547 ordered a bell in convenient time to be rung or knolled before the sermon. When Hugh Latimer visited Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, and preached in the church there, that custom was followed; for the churchwardens charge in their accounts:—

"1553 October. Itm. payd to John Hynmane and to Robert Bagworth for rynginge of ye great bell for master latimore sarmon ..... ij*d.*"

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* *Surtees Soc.* p. 33.

The Sermon bell was sometimes rung during the Litany to give notice to the people that the sermon was coming on;* and one of the duties of the Bell-ringer at Exeter Cathedral, in 1670, was "to toll ye Sermon Bell every Sunday after the second lesson of the Quire Service in ye morning when there is a sermon."† The Puritans were so often ready to go to Sermon, but not to Prayers, that the bishops tried to check the unseemly practice of going into church after Prayers were said, by directing attention to it in their Visitation Articles, and Wren (1640) directed with regard to the Sermon-bell "That the same ringing of bells should be observed at all times whether there was a Sermon or not."‡

The ringing of this bell after the chiming, when a sermon is to be preached, though not universal, is very general in Lincolnshire: the tenor bell is so used at

Addlethorpe, Allington, Ancaster, Appleby, Ashby Puerorum, Ashby-cum-Fenby, Ashby-de-la-Launde, Ashby West, Aswarby, Aubourn, Barholm, Barkstone, Bassingthorpe, Belton (Isle of Axholme), Belton near Grantham, Binbrook, Bitchfield, Bloxholm, Blyton, Boothby Graffoe, Boothby Pagnell, Boston, Bottesford, Branston, Carlton-le-Moorland, Carlton Scroop, Caythorpe, Claxby, Coleby, Coningsby, Crowle, Deeping Market, Denton, Digby, Donington-on-Bain, Dunston, Elsham, Elkington South, Epworth, Evedon, Ewerby, Folkingham, Foston, Fulbeck, Fulletby, Goxhill, Grayingham, Gunby S. Nicolas, Hale Magna, Halton West, Harlaxton, Heckington, Helpringham, Heydour, Hibaldstow, Horn-

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* See Lathbury's *Hist. of Book of Com. Prayer*, 2nd Ed. p. 83.

† *Bells of Exeter Cathedral*, p. 83.

‡ Lathbury, p. 175-6.

castle, Irnham, Kelsey South, Kirkby-cum-Osgodby, Kirkby Underwood, Kirton-in-Lindsey, Lavington, Lincoln S. Botolph and S. Peter-at-Arches, Linwood, Ludborough, Navenby, Newton, Normanton, Norton Disney, Ormsby South, Owston, Partney, Pinchbeck East, Ponton Great, Potterhanworth, Rasen Market, Rasen Middle, Raithby-by-Louth, Redbourne, Scarle North, Scredington, Sibsey, Skellingthorpe, Skidbrook, Skirbeck, Spilsby, Springthorpe, Stainby, Stamford All Saints, S. George, S. John Baptist, and S. Michael; Stow, Stroxton, Surfleet, Swaton, Swinderby, Tallington, Tattershall, Thornton Curtis, Thorpe-on-the-Hill, Ulceby, Utterby, Waddington, Walcot, Wainfleet S. Mary, Washingborough, Welbourn, Wellingore, Welton, Westborough, Winteringham, Winterton, and Wragby.

The treble bell is rung as a Sermon-bell after the chiming at Aunsby ("because less trouble than the tenor,") Baumber, Benington, Broughton, Burgh, Burton Coggles, Honington, Langton-by-Wragby, Rippingale, South Somercotes, and North Witham.

At Leverton the ringing of the 1st is called the Sermon-bell, though the tenor is rung just preceding.

At Butterwick, Fishtoft, Frieston, and Leake the tenor is rung as the Sermon-bell fifteen minutes before the service.

At Leasingham and Scotton the 2nd bell is rung as the Sermon-bell after the chiming.

At Harpswell and at Hemswell a bell is rung as the clergyman enters the churchyard, but whether intended as a Sermon or a Priest's bell is uncertain.

At Haxey the tenor bell rung at 7 a.m. and again at 8 a.m., and at Fiskerton the same bell rung at 8 a.m.

are called the Sermon-bells: the early bell (8 a.m.) at Laughton is also called the Sermon-bell.

At Bourn, Claypole, Grantham and Skendleby the tenor is rung as a Sermon-bell before the ringing or chiming.

At Laceby—where the tenor was formerly rung—they now ring the Priest's bell as the Sermon-bell: so at Tetney the Priest's bell is rung as a Sermon-bell after chiming and ringing of the treble.

Occasionally the inscription on the tenor bell refers to its use as a Sermon-bell: thus at Ancaster:—

> I will sounde and resounde unto thy people O Lord
> With my sweet voyce to call them to thy word.

In Northamptonshire we find:—

> I ring to sermon with a lusty bome
> That all may come and none may stay at home.

Sunday Mid-day Peals. It is customary in many parishes to ring at the close of the Morning Service in a similar manner to that described under Early Peals: thus the 1st and 2nd bells are so rung at Brant Broughton, Hale Magna, Harlaxton, and, until recently, at All Saints and S. John Baptist, Stamford.

At Bourn the 2nd is rung at the close of Morning Service, and the 3rd and 4th bells at 2 p.m.

The treble bell only is rung at Aslackby, Barholm, Bennington Long, Edenham, Holbeach All Saints, Langtoft, Lavington, Leasingham, Leverton, Scothorne, Stubton, Thornton-le-Moor, and Toynton All Saints.

The tenor is so rung at Caythorpe: and the 2nd at Barkstone and at Sleaford.

At Aswarby and at Thorpe-on-the-Hill the treble bell is rung at 1 p.m.

At Horncastle the 1st and 2nd, or the 3rd and 4th, are rung at 2 p.m.

As the Early Peals are frequently considered signals for the Morning Service, so these mid-day ringings are sometimes now used as warnings that Evensong will be said: they are only used when such will be the case at Burton Coggles, Thimbleby, and Wellingore, at which places the treble is rung: at Cotes Magna the tenor is rung.

At Cammeringham, at Dunsby, and at Harpswell, when there is no Morning Service the bell is rung at noon to announce Evensong: the same custom is followed at Morton, where, after ringing the treble at noon, the day of the month is tolled on the tenor.

At South Kelsey the tenor is rung at the conclusion of Morning Service, and again at 5 p.m., when Evening Service is to be said.

At Heckington a bell is rung at 4 p.m.: and at Scopwick and at Willoughby the tenor is sounded at the same time, which is locally said to be "meant as a warning to the ringers to remember Evening Service:" at Swineshead the 2nd bell is tolled at 4 p.m., and the 5th and 6th at 5 p.m.

At Gedney Hill a bell is always rung at the end of every service on Sunday and week-day alike; and at Louth, until recently, the 3rd bell was rung after both Morning and

Evening Service on Sunday, and was called the "Leaving-off bell."

At Wainfleet S. Mary it is the custom to ring a peal after Morning Service.

At Hogsthorpe it was, until recently, the custom to ring a bell at noon, again at 1 p.m., and again at 2 p.m., half-an-hour after which the service began.

It was formerly the custom at Croyland to ring the 1st bell at 12.30, and to chime two bells at 4 p.m., but both are now discontinued.

The bell at the close of the Morning Service is, in some places, known as

"The Pudding Bell" being supposed to be rung in order to give the cook warning that Service is over, and so dinner may be prepared: others, as already said, think that the ringing at the close of one Service was, and is, meant as the signal that another will follow; others, again, that the custom originated in the habits of neglect on the part of the clergy in the country districts; who being frequently non-resident, and holding Services at irregular times were, in consequence, obliged to give warning thereof: but it is more probable that the custom is the survival of the

Knolling of the Aves mentioned in the Injunctions of 1538 as being sounded after the Service, and at certain other times, and as having been brought in and begun by the pretence of the Bishop of Rome's pardon, and it was ordered that they be thenceforth left and omitted. Shaxton, Bishop of Sarum, in that year, said "That the bell called the Pardon or Ave Bell which of longe tyme hathe been

used to be tolled three tymes after and before Divine Service be not hereafter, in any part of my diocese, any more tollyd."

In some places the Aves' bell was tolled thrice every day. That was the case at Cropedy, Oxfordshire, as we know from a benefaction to the Bells made by Master Roger Lupton, vicar of that parish, by Indenture dated 26 August, 1512. He gave certain money to the churchwardens upon condition that they should amongst other things, "toll dayly the Avees bell at sex of the clok in the mornyng, at xij of the clok at noone, and at foure of the clok at afternoone."*

The saying of the Aves was between the tolling: among the articles of enquiry in 1547 was one whether the knolling at the Aves be used?

The ringing or tolling of a bell or bells before the chiming or ringing commences for Divine Service at Ashby-de-la-Launde, Bourn, Carlton-le-Moorland, Claypole, Cockerington South, Fleet, Folkingham, Friesthorpe, Gedney Hill, Grantham, Halton Holgate, Lea, Navenby, Owersby North, Sleaford, Theddlethorpe S. Helen, and Welton may be, and probably is—as well as the ringing at the close of the Service—a continuance of the custom of knolling the Aves.

Sacrament-bell. At Stamford All Saints', S. George's and S. Michael's the treble bell is rung, after the chiming for Morning Service, instead of the tenor (Sermon-bell) when there is to be a mid-day Celebration and no sermon:

* *Historical Notices of Cropredy*, by Rev. D. Royce, p. 43.

and at S. Mary's in the same town on a similar occasion the 3rd and 4th are first chimed, then the 4th, 5th, and 6th followed by the ringing of the 2nd instead of the usual Sermon-bell. At Fulbeck the 5th bell is rung at the close of the chiming on like occasions.

At S. Botolph's, Lincoln (where all the bells are chimed for early Celebrations), the "ting-tang" is used as a Sacrament-bell. It is always sounded for five minutes before the hour (when the other bells have ceased) at 8 a.m. on Sunday mornings. It is also rung when there is a mid-day Celebration (which is on the 1st Sunday in the month) after Matins, at which service the sermon is preached. The Celebration is then proceeded with without any break for sermon, and so invalids and others, wishing to do so, can attend the Holy Communion Service only.

At Holbeach All Saints it is the custom to ring a bell at the end of the Litany, and at Spalding parish church the 4th bell is tolled at the same time, and again for a few minutes when the Celebration is over. At S. Peter-in-Eastgate, Lincoln, and at Winterton, the 1st bell is rung at the close of the sermon when a Celebration follows.

This useful custom is referred to in Bishop Hooper's Injunctions (1551) in these words:—

> ". . . . and in case there be any pause between the Morning Prayer and the Communion, then to advertise and signify unto the people of the ministration of the Holy Sacrament, to toll one bell, such as the parish shall think most meet and convenient."

It was, until recently, the custom at Horncastle to ring

the 5th bell at six o'clock on the evening preceding the day on which the Holy Communion was to be Celebrated.

THE PASSING-BELL. Besides the use of bells for calling to Divine Service the Canons enjoin the tolling of the "Passing-bell." The custom of notifying, by this means, the passing of a soul out of this life, is almost, if not quite, as ancient, in this country, as the use of bells by the church. Bede mentions "the well known sound of the bell by which they [the Nuns of Hackness] were wont to be aroused or assembled to prayers when any one of them was called forth from this world," as being heard in the year 680.*

Durand, who wrote about the end of the twelfth century, says: "when any one is dying bells must be tolled that the people may put up their prayers, twice for a woman and thrice for a man; if for a clergyman as many times as he had orders."† The Passing-bell was, of course, then rung at all hours of the night, as well as by day. This custom is referred to in an entry in the accounts of the Churchwardens of Peterborough for the year 1572:—

> "Itm̃ to Scarlet (the sexton) beyng a poore olde man and rysyng oft in the nyghte to tolle the bell for sicke persons the wether beynge grevous, and in consideration of his good service towards a gowne to kepe hym warme ..... viijs."

After the Reformation the custom of ringing the Passing-bell in the ancient way was continued. Even Bucer, who was no lover of bells, allowed of ringing "to pray for the sick."

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* Bede, Book IV. c. xxiii. † *Brand's Pop. Ant.* II. 129.

Bishop Hooper in his Injunctions, issued in 1551, says:

> "Item. That from henceforth there be no knells or forthfares rung for the death of any man; but in case they that be sick and in danger, or any of their friends will demand to have the bell toll whiles the sick is in extremes to admonish people of their danger, and by that means to solicitate the hearers to pray for the sick person, they may use it."

The Passing-bell is enjoined by the royal Injunctions of 1559, and the Advertisements, issued in the year 1564, show that it was still usual to ring or toll the Passing-bell whilst the person was believed to be dying, but not yet dead: "That where anye Christian bodie be passing that the bell be tolled, and that the curate be specially called for to comforte the sicke person." The bell was ordered to be used by Grindal in 1570, "to move the people to pray for the sick person."* In 1588 the custom is referred to in the Records of the Corporation of Boston in this county thus:—

> "Every person that shall have the great bell rung for him in their extremity of sickness to pay 4^{d} to the church, over and beside the usual fee due to the clock-keeper."

The Bishops, in after years, enquired in their Articles whether the Passing-bell was so tolled. Bishop Cosin in his Visitation Articles for the Diocese of Durham in 1662, enquires:—

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* Lathbury, p. 86.

"And, when any person is passing out of this world doth he [parish clerk or sexton] upon notice given him thereof, go and toll a bell, as hath been accustomed, that the neighbours may thereby be warned to recommend the dying person to the grace and favour of God?"*

In 1624 D'Ewes mentions the bell tolling for a person whom he visited, and who lived some hours afterwards. The Puritans used the Passing-bell, as Fuller shows in his account of John Rainolds, one of the Puritan advocates of the Hampton Court Conference: he says: "The morrow after, death seazing upon all parts of his body, he expressed by signes that he would have the passing-bell tole for him." †

Amongst the fees belonging to the Bell-ringer of Exeter Cathedral in 1670 were:

"For tolling the bell for every sick person ..... 1*s.*
For every childe ..... 6*d.*"‡

The custom was continued to recent times. Nelson in his *Meditations for the Holy Time of Lent*, speaking of a good christian says:—"If his sense hold out so long he can hear his Passing-bell without disturbance."§ At Barrow-

* *Cosin's Works* (Lib. Ang. Cath. Theology), Vol. IV. p. 517.

† Lathbury, p. 151-2.

‡ *Bells of Exeter Cathedral*, p. 32.

§ *Bells of the Church*, p. 273, where the following instance is given from Brayley's *History of the Tower*, p. 460. "We have a remarkable mention of this custom in the narrative of the last moments of the Lady Catherine, sister of Lady Jane Grey, who died a prisoner in the Tower of London, in 1567; Sir Owen Opton, Constable of the Tower, perceiving her drawing towards her end, said to Mr. Bokeham, 'Were it not best to send to the church that the bell may be rung?' and she herself hearing him, said, 'Good, Sir Owen, be it so,' and immediately died."

on-Humber in this county amongst the Clerk's fees in 1713 we find :—

> "For every passing bell four pence and for every soul bell four pence."

the former being rung according to ancient practice, the latter after death, as a Death-knell. At Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, the custom was first departed from in the case of Mr. Crane, who died about 1738. He "was the first person in Melton," says Nichols, "for whom the bell tolled after death, till when the custom was for it to pass before, agreeably to the primitive institution." Wheatley speaks of the Passing-bell as being generally disused in 1755.* The late Mrs. Law, who died in 1874, aged about 94 years, not only remembered the Passing-bell being rung in the ancient manner at King's Cliffe, Northamptonshire, but she used to relate that upon one occasion it was tolled for a lady who did not then die as was expected, but recovered her health. The inscriptions on some of the tenor bells in this county refer to their use for the Passing-bell: for example, at Addlethorpe :—

Remember Death.

At Claypole :—

All men that heare my mournfull sound
Repent before you lye in ground.

At Fishtoft :—

Vitam metior mortem ploro.

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* *Rat. Ill. of Book of Com. Prayer*, p. 427.

At Frampton :—

> My roring sound doth warning give
> That men cannot heare allwaies live.

At West Keal :—

> To speak a parting Soul is giv'n to me
> Be trimm'd thy Lamp as if I toll'd for Thee.

At Owmby :—

> When you die aloud I cry.

And occasionally—as at Deeping S. James—an inscription is used which refers to the modern custom in contrast to the ancient :—

> Non sono animabus mortuorum sed auribus viventium.

The bell now used for the Passing-bell (or more properly the Death-knell) is usually the tenor, but this is sometimes, as we shall see, changed in the case of children, when a smaller bell is occasionally rung. At the close, or the commencement, or at both, of the Passing-bell it has long been the custom to indicate the sex of the person departing, or departed, by certain strokes or tolls of the bell. These have generally been three for a male (in honour of the Holy Trinity), and two for a female (in honour of our Saviour born of a woman), on the tenor bell, as at Aisthorpe, Bicker, Bratoft, Carlton Castle, Dowsby, Harlaxton, Heydour, Ponton Little, Quadring, Rippingale and Stragglethorpe. These are given before and after the knell at Aubourn, Caythorpe, Claxby, and Mumby. Sometimes, as

at Claypole, Middle Rasen, and Stow-S.-Mary these tolls are given on all the bells. At Scothorn the tenor is first tolled, then rung up, then, after a pause, lowered, after which each bell is tolled three times for a male, twice for a female. At North Kelsey three strokes are given on each bell for a male, two for a female, after which the tenor is raised and rung for about twenty minutes followed for a few minutes by a "minute bell" first on the tenor, then on the treble bell. Three tolls for a man, two for a woman, and one for a child are given at Alkborough, Beelsby, and Donington-on-Bain (before and after): at Luddington these tolls are given on each of the three bells, and at Long Sutton these tolls are given on the 4th, 5th, and tenor bells, after which the 5th is rung for ten minutes. At Morton-by-Gainsborough the bell is tolled in triplets for a man, in couples for a woman, and in single strokes for a child for about ten minutes in each case. At Welton these three tolls for a male and two for a female are given on the 4th, 5th, and 6th bells, and at Winteringham and at Winterton on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th bells.

The most usual form of distinction of sex, however, in this county is thrice three tolls for a male and thrice two for a female: such is the custom at:

Ancaster, Aslackby, Aswarby, Aunsby, Bardney, Bennington Long, Belton-by-Grantham, Billinghay, Bitchfield, Bloxholme, Boothby Graffoe, Bottesford, Branston, Brinkhill, Burgh, Burton-by-Lincoln, Burton Coggles, Burton Pedwardine, Caistor, Carlton Scroop, Coleby, Cranwell, Croyland, Denton, Digby, Doddington Dry, Donington, Dorrington, Dunholme, Dunsby, Dunston, Edenham,

Evedon, Ewerby, Fiskerton, Folkingham, Foston, Gainsborough, Grantham, Gunby S. Nicolas, Hacconby, Haceby, Hale Magna, Harmston, Harpswell, Heapham, Helpringham, Hemswell, Irnham, Irby All Saints, Kelsey South, Kirkby-cum-Osgodby, Kirkby Laythorpe, Kirkby Underwood, Kyme South, Langton-by-Wragby, Leasingham, Limber Magna, Lincoln S. Martin, S. Mary-le-Wigford, S. Paul, S. Peter-at-Arches and S. Peter-at-Gowts, at Londonthorpe, Mareham-le-Fen, Navenby, Newton, Nocton, Normanton, Norton Disney, Osbournby, Owersby North, Ponton Great, Potterhanworth, Reston South, Saltfleetby S. Clement, Scredington, Scopwick, Scarle North, Skellingthorpe, Skendleby, Stainby, Stockwith East, Stroxton, Stubton, Swinstead, Tallington, Tattershall, Tetney, Thorpe-on-the-Hill, Thornton-le-Moor, Torksey, Upton, Waddington, Washingborough, Westborough, Willingham-by-Stow, Willingham South, and Witham North.

The same number of tolls,—thrice three for a male, thrice two for a female,—are given both before and after the knell at

Allington East and West, Ashby-de-la-Launde, Ashby West, Barholm, Barkston, Bassingthorpe, Baston, Billingborough, Boothby Pagnell, Bourn, Careby, Colsterworth, Coningsby, Corby, Deeping Market, Deeping S. James, Elkington South, Fulbeck, Honington, Lavington, Orby, Swinderby, Ulceby, Welbourn, Welby, Wellingore, Willoughby, and at Yarburgh.

At Blyborough, Hawerby, and Morton, these distinctive tolls are given only at the commencement of the knell. At Gainsborough the 6th bell is rung for the knell, but the distinctive tolls are given on the tenor. At Hawerby the smaller of the two bells is used. At Lincoln, S. Peter-at-Arches, and S. Peter-at-Gowts, the custom is to toll the tenor for ten minutes, and then ring it for five minutes. At

Dorrington the Passing-bell is never rung before 8 a.m. nor after 6 p.m. At Branston and at Heapham the age of the deceased is tolled after the knell. At the following places the bell is rung a short time only for children:—Billingborough, Doddington Dry, Hale Magna, Kirkby-cum-Osgodby, Morton, Owersby North, Thornton-le-Moor, and Westborough: and at Bardney, Bourn, Deeping Market, Deeping S. James, Edenham, Tallington, and Willoughby, the death of a child is indicated by ringing the treble or one of the other small bells instead of the tenor. At Heckington the ringing is commenced by nine tolls in succession, followed by thrice three tolls for a male: or by six tolls in succession, followed by thrice two tolls for a female. At Louth, where these distinctive tolls 3 × 3 and 3 × 2 are used, the use of the 5th bell is included in the burial fee, and so is generally rung for the working classes: for the use of the 7th bell a fee of 3*s.* 6*d.* is charged, and is generally rung for the tradespeople: and for the tenor the fee is 5*s.*, and its use is chiefly confined to the nobility and gentry. At Croyland the treble bell is rung for infants, the 3rd for children, and the tenor for adults. At Tattershall upon the death of any church officer the tenor is rung as a minute bell for an hour.

These nine tolls for a man are sometimes called "tellers," and it has been suggested that the old saying

Nine *tailors make* a man

is a corruption of a saying arising from the thrice three tolls or "tellers" at the close of the passing-bell,

Nine *tellers mark* a man.

In addition to these modes of indicating the sex and age of the deceased, there are very many more in use in Lincolnshire. Some of them have, no doubt, been long in use, others are, probably, corruptions of older customs through the ignorance or negligence of parish clerks or sextons. A record of these, though, perhaps, tedious, may well be preserved as the collecting of them has involved some trouble.

At Owston thrice three tolls are given for a man on four bells, beginning with the 6th, ending with the 3rd; the same for a boy under ten, but commencing with the 3rd and ending with the 6th. For a woman seven tolls are given, commencing with the 6th and ending with the 3rd bell, and the same number for a girl beginning with the 3rd and ending with the 6th bell. These tollings are both before and after the knell, which is rung on the tenor for adults, on the 5th bell for children.

At Tydd S. Mary, where thrice three tolls are given for a male, four single strokes and then three are given for a female, the tenor being used for adults, the treble for children. The same custom is followed at Moulton for a man or a woman, but for a child they give three tolls and then two.

Thrice three tolls for a man, thrice two for a woman and three single strokes for a child are given at Addlethorpe, Authorpe, Barrow-on-Humber, Brant Broughton, Burton-on-Stather (at beginning and end), Cockerington South, Crowle, Elsham, Holywell, Keal East (after which the age

is tolled), Messingham (at beginning and end), Somercotes South, Theddlethorpe S. Helen, Tothill, Walton-le-Wold, Withern, and at Goxhill, where the tenor is tolled a little at the commencement, then the indicating tolls are given, after which the tenor is again tolled, followed by the indicating tolls on all the bells.

At Saltfleetby S. Peter, thrice three tolls are given for a man, thrice two for a woman, and twice two for a child before the knell.

Thrice three tolls are given for a male and twice three for a female at Castle Bytham (before and after the knell), Skegness and Timberland.

At Doddington thrice three tolls are given for a male and twice two for a female, and the same for a man and a woman at Blyton, where, however, a child is indicated by one stroke.

At Ruskington and Silk Willoughby the death of a man is indicated by thrice three tolls, that of a woman by thrice two, that of a boy by twice three, and that of a girl by twice two: the same custom is followed at Sleaford and Swarby, at which two places, however, the tolls are given both before and after the knell, and the age of the deceased is tolled at the end.

At Belleau, Hatcliffe, Irby-on-Humber, Raithby-by-Louth and Searby thrice three tolls are given for a man, twice three for a woman, and three single ones for a child: the same custom is followed at Alford, excepting that for a child one toll is given on each bell.

At Carlton-le-Moorland, Gosberton, Lincoln S. Botolph, and Weston S. Mary the indicating tolls are thrice three

for a man, twice three for a boy, thrice two for a woman and twice two for a girl.

At Althorpe they give nine strokes on the 3rd bell for a man, seven strokes on the 2nd bell for a woman, and five on the first bell for a child.

Nine tolls are given for males and seven for females at Alvingham (where the knell is rung half-an-hour for adults, a quarter of an hour for children), Barkwith East, Cockerington North (rung as at Alvingham), Grimoldby, Hogsthorpe, Lacey, Ludborough, Pinchbeck East (where the tenor is used for adults, the 2nd bell for children), Thoresby North, and Theddingthorpe All Saints, where the tolls are given both before and after the knell.

At Belton, Isle of Axholme (where the 2nd bell is used for children), Benniworth, Gedney Hill, and Scotter, nine tolls are given for a man, seven for a woman, and five for a child: at Waltham and Wootton the same number are given for a man and a woman, but four are the number for a boy, three for a girl, at the latter place before the knell: at Horkstow the same for a man and woman, but three for a boy and five for a girl: and at Thornton Curtis, where the same tolls indicate a man and a woman, three tolls are given for a child, and at that place all the tolls are given upon each bell, after which, the age of the deceased is tolled on the tenor.

At Bigby and Bonby seven tolls are given for a man, five for a woman, and three for a child, at the former place both before and after the knell.

At Frampton and Sutterton the custom is to give three

tolls four times for a man, three times for a woman, twice for a child in teens, and three single tolls for a young child. The same custom is followed at Wainfleet S. Mary, excepting that twice three tolls serve for all children.

At Holbeach All Saints, thrice three tolls are given for a man, three tolls and then four tolls for a woman, three and two for a boy, and twice two for a girl both before and after the knell.

At Haxey five tolls are given for a male, three for a female, on the tenor for adults, the 5th bell for children.

At Scotton nine strokes are given for a male, namely three on tenor, three on treble, then three on tenor again: for a female the same number but beginning and ending with the treble bell.

At West Halton both before and after the knell, four tolls are given on each bell for a man, three for a woman, and two for a child, commencing in each case with the treble bell.

At Corringham four tolls are given for a male, three for a female before, and twice four for a male, twice three for a female after the knell.

At Great Grimsby four tolls are given for a male, three for a female before tolling the 7th bell.

At Hibaldstow they give four tolls on the tenor for a male, three on each bell for a female.

At Skirbeck and Swineshead the indicating tolls are rather precise: they are three times four for a married man, twice four for a single man, and four single strokes for a male child: thrice three for a married woman, twice three

for a single woman, and three single tolls for a female child. The same custom is followed at Boston with the exception of seven tolls, instead of four times two, for bachelors.

The notification at Northorpe is given in couples thus: six couple of tolls for a man, five for a woman, four for a boy, and three for a girl.

At Caenby five times four tolls are given for a man, four times four for a woman, and three times four for children under twelve years of age.

At Epworth at the commencement of the knell one stroke is given on the 1st bell, two on the 2nd, three on the 3rd, four on the 4th, five on the fifth, then twelve tolls on the tenor for a man, nine for a woman: the same for children, excepting the use of the 4th bell instead of the tenor.

At Butterwick, Fishtoft, Frieston, Leake, and Stickney, they give thrice four tolls for a man, twice four for a boy, thrice three for a woman, and twice three for a girl.

At Kirton-in-Lindsey six tolls are given for a man, five for a woman, four for a boy, and three for a girl. In case of an Inquest the bell is not rung until after the enquiry is over.

At Mumby Chapel they give four times three tolls for a male, and three times three for a female: the same custom is followed at Leverton, where it is according to ancient use, as is shown by an entry in the Constables' Accounts for the year 1692:—

"In ringing the passing-bell it has been time out of mind customary for a man that dies to toll 12 tolls. For a woman 9 tolls. They are accounted man or woman at the age of 16 or 18 years. For younger persons, a male 7 tolls; a female 6 tolls."*

At Algarkirk, Kirton-in-Holland, Mablethorpe S. Mary, and Wyberton, it is the custom to toll twelve strokes for a man, nine for a woman, three for a child: at Benington and Laughton the same number for a man and a woman, but seven for a boy and six for a girl at the former place, and six for a child of either sex at the latter.

At Broughton they give twelve tolls for a man, eight for a woman, and six for a child, after which the tenor is tolled half-an-hour for an adult, and a quarter of an hour for a child.

Four strokes for a male and three for a female are the indicating tolls at Cuxwold and at Keddington.

At Fulstow (where the bell is tolled longer for old people than for the young) they give three times four tolls for a male, and four times three for a female.

At Bolingbroke, Hareby, and Sibsey—at the last-named place a few tolls are first given as if to call attention, and the distinctive tolls are given both before and after the knell—the custom is thrice four tolls for a man, thrice three for a woman, and thrice two for a child: which is slightly altered to twice three for a child at Enderby Mavis and at Kettlethorpe.

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* Thompson's *Boston*, p. 574.

At Heminby they give thrice three tolls for a male, four threes for a female.

At Marsh Chapel thrice three tolls are given for a man, twice three for a male under 16; thrice two for a woman, twice two for a female under 16; and at Spalding the same custom is followed with the age of the deceased tolled after the bell is lowered.

At Market Rasen they give thrice three tolls for a man, twice three and one for a boy, twice three and two for a woman, and twice three for a girl.

At East Kirkby four times three tolls are given for a man, thrice three for a woman, twice three for a boy, and three single strokes for a girl.

At Hundleby, Partney, Spilsby, Toynton All Saints and Toynton S. Peter, they give four times three tolls for a man, thrice three for a woman, twice three for a child both before and after the knell.

At Fleet the tenor is tolled at minute intervals for ten minutes, then rung for three minutes, followed for thrice three tolls for a man, thrice two for a woman, or three single strokes for a child on the 5th bell.

At all the churches in Stamford, since about the year 1872, the ringing of the Passing-bell has been discontinued, the only notification of death being thrice three tolls for a male, thrice two for a female, twice over, on the tenor bell for adults, on the treble for children, with a short pause between each set of strokes.

At Horncastle nine tolls are given for a male, six for a female before the knell, excepting for an inhabitant living

west of the river Bain, when the tolls are given after the knell: for a child the bell is not raised, only tolled: on the death of the Sovereign, Bishop of Lincoln, Vicar of the parish, or any officer of the church, the bell is tolled an hour, minute time, and on those occasions is always commenced at 3, 6, 9, or 12 o'clock, those being the only hours at which the minute bell is commenced.

At Appleby two strokes are given on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th, and four on the 6th bell for a male; two strokes on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th, and three on the 6th bell for a woman; and two strokes on the 4th, 5th, and 6th bells for a child.

At South Ferriby the custom is to give thrice three tolls for an adult and thrice two for a child irrespective of sex.

At Baumber, Cotes Magna, Fotherby, Fulletby (where the bell is rung twenty minutes for an adult, fifteen minutes for a youth, and ten minutes for an infant), Harrington, Langton-by-Partney, Legbourn, Manton, Nettleton, Rand, Ravendale East, Roxby-cum-Risby, Tathwell, Walcot (where the treble is rung for children), Wickenby, Witham-on-the-Hill (treble for children), Wold Newton, Woolsthorpe (where the bell is tolled for half-an-hour with an interval of half-a-minute between each toll), and Wragby (where, however, there is some recollection of distinctive tolls being used), the bell is rung without any indicating tolls for age or sex, either at the commencement, or the end of the knell.

It is customary in Lincolnshire not to ring the Passing-bell after sunset: this is specially the case at Castle Carlton, Torrington, Gedney Hill, and other places.

At Thornton-le-Moor the larger bell of the two is only used as the Passing-bell: not for Divine Service.

Death Knell. In addition to the Passing-bell, the Canon enjoins that "after the party's death, if it so fall out, there shall be rung no more than one short peal." Durand mentions this custom, and in the *Book of Ceremonies* (1539) we are told that "Bells are ordained to give knowledge of our Christian brother or sister departed this world, that both we may call to remembrance our own mortality, and also be moved with charity to pray for them so departed." After the Reformation it is referred to in some of the Articles of Enquiry issued by the bishops in such words as these...."or to ring a knell presently after the departure, that notice may be taken by all to give God thanks for that party's deliverance out of this vale of misery."* The Puritans in 1562, desired "that no peal after death of any person be above the space of one hour." Wheatley writes of "the short peal" after the party's death as being generally rung in 1755, but the custom has now fallen entirely into disuse. A trace of it may however be traced at Fleet, S. Peter-at-Arches, and S. Peter-at-Gowts, Lincoln, Scothorn, and other places where the so called passing-bell is first *tolled* then *rung*: so at Epworth, Owston, Long-Sutton, &c., the distinctive *tolls* are first given after which the bell is *rung*. At Stow S. Mary it was formerly the custom to toll for twenty minutes, then ring for twenty minutes, and afterwards toll for twenty minutes again. The

* *Vide* Walcott's Ed. of *Canons, &c.*, p. 94.

Death-knell of the Canon is, I think, referred to under the name of

Soul Bell in the list of the "*Clark's fees and wages*" for Barrow-on-Humber, in 1713, thus:—

> "And for every passing-bell four pence and for every soul-bell four pence."

the passing-bell mentioned being then rung according to primitive practice, and the Soul-bell "presently after the departure:" the Burial peal is mentioned as distinct from this. Sometimes the Passing-bell was called the Soul-bell: thus Bishop Hall says: "We call them Soul-bells because they signify the departing of the soul, not because they help the passage of the soul."

Burial Peals. The Canon mentions "and one other (peal) before the burial, and one after the burial."

This sounding of bells at funerals was an ancient custom, and had been carried to great excess; indeed, so early as 1339 Bishop Grandisson, of Exeter, found it desirable to check the long ringings on such occasions, on the grounds that "they do no good to the departed, are an annoyance to the living, and injurious to the fabrick and the bells."* The Puritans in 1562 desired that no peal of bells at the interment be above half-an-hour. Sometimes Burial Peals were provided for by Will: thus, John Woodford of Barsby, Leicestershire, in his Will dated 13th February, 1543, said "Also I will that they shall ring att my Burriall and to have for their Labour ij*d.* a peece." [*Notes and Queries*, 6 s. 1.

* *Bells of Exeter Cathedral*, p. 7.

p. 94.] Latimer speaks of "ringing of bells," and Whitgift, sometime Dean of Lincoln, of "the threefold peal" at Funerals. We find traces of this custom constantly in Churchwardens' Accounts. For instance in those of S. John Baptist, Stamford, for the year 1587-8, there is

lead forthe for mettle to mending the belles at mistres backhows biriall ..... ij*d*.

1604-5. Itm̃ pd to John Pearson for mending the belropes when mistris loveday was buryed ..... ij*d*.

1633-4. It' for ringing at ye buriall of Mr Reynolds.....00 . 01 . 06

The custom of chiming or ringing at funerals is now becoming obsolete: it, however, still lingers in this county.

At Dunsby and Hawerby the bells are chimed at funerals, and such is occasionally the case by special request at Edenham, Hale Magna, Heckington, and Sibsey: at Epworth and Thornton Curtis the bells are chimed at the funeral of church officials.

At Long Bennington the bells were chimed at Thomas Slack's funeral in 1861, and at West Allington on the occasion of Thomas Scott's funeral in 1874.*

At Scothorn an aged woman, a native of Yorkshire, who died about the year 1860, requested that the bells might be chimed at her funeral, which was done: it is the only remembered instance in that parish: so at Cotes Magna the bells were rung at the funeral of Ann Phillipson on the 2nd of July, 1872: she was aged 75, and had been a long

* In *Gent. Mag.* LXII. 963, is an account of the funeral of Mary Foster, at Folkingham, in the year 1792: she made many whimsical requests connected with it: the bells were chimed.

sufferer: she desired that "the beautiful bells which had so often cheered her in life might ring her to rest in her last home."

At South Kelsey the clerk, now (1879) aged 89 years, only remembers one instance of chiming at a funeral: it was at that of Ann Johnson, who was buried on the 19th of November, 1848, aged 96 years: she specially requested that she might "be chimed to church as old people were when she was a girl." Her wish has been thus put into verse:—

Chime me to Church, and let no doleful knell
Be tolled from that old steeple grey;
The melody of pealing bells shall swell
Around me on my funeral day.

Ninety long years of glowing Summer light,
And Winters with their pinching cold,
Like a long day have past, and now the night
Steals on me—I am very old.

I've heard the merry bells peal brisk and clear,
For wedding and for festal day:
I've heard the dull bell tolling sad and drear,
For flowers that died in early May.

The mellow leaves are falling from the trees,
Golden and brown, by soft winds borne:
After life's strife there comes the hope of ease;
Its coming should not make us mourn.

Low in the west slow dips the setting sun
Behind a solemn purple cloud:
Mourn not for loss of him: his course is run,
Rest comes with evening's misty shroud.

The clouds have slid down to the distant sea,
Beyond the darkly shadowed wold;
High in the deepening blue, o'er tower and tree,
One lonely star hangs clear and cold.

The night wind, wandering round that moss-grown tower,
Sings in the belfry a lone song.
Lulling to sleep the dew-steeped closing flower,—
And sleep will come to me ere long.

I shall not wake to any earthly morn;
My long day's work comes to a close;
Humbly, I trust, life's struggles I have borne;
And now I wait for sweet repose.

Chime me to Church, and let the cheerful peal
Make homely music in the air;
No cause for sorrow, I but gently steal
Away into a dawn more fair.

Chime me to Church, to sleep near its grey wall,
Lulled by the evening song to rest,
Till summoned by the white-robed angel's call
To the bright morning of the blest.*

Though not now followed the custom of chiming at Funerals is remembered at Althorpe, Corringham, Owston, Gunby S. Nicolas, Tetney, and Stainby: at the two last-named places the custom was to toll a single bell until the procession appeared in sight, then to chime. At S. John Baptist, Stamford, the present (1879) parish clerk remembers when it was the custom at a funeral to toll the 1st, 2nd,

* By permission, from *Autumn Leaves* by S. Collinson, 2nd Ed. p. 107.

3rd, and 4th bells singly, then chime all together, and afterwards toll the tenor. The ringing or chiming to funerals seems to be referred to in the inscription on the 3rd bell at Brant Broughton:—

> Beg ye of God your soul to save
> Before *we* call you to the grave.

Simple tolling before the funeral is now the prevalent custom: at Croyland the tenor is rung: at South Somercotes the day of the month is given after the tolling: at Tetney the 2nd bell is used for children, the tenor for adults: at Swineshead, and probably in other places, the tenor is tolled when a corpse is carried through the parish for interment beyond. Amongst the Fees due to the Parish Clerk of Barrow-on-Humber in 1713 was:—

> "If the friends of any deceased person desire to have the great bell rung a Little before the Corpse is brought to the Church the Clark for his ringing the said Bell shall have one shilling."*

The "one peal after" the funeral is now of rare occurrence excepting in the case of ringers or other church officials.

At Bardney, however, and at Lea a dumb peal is rung occasionally after a funeral: at Haxey the same thing occurs at intervals during the day of the funeral of church officials, and occasionally of other parishioners by particular desire: at Navenby the bells are also occasionally rung in the evening after a funeral: at S. Peter-at-Gowts, Lincoln, a

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* MS. preserved in Church Chest.

peal is rung for an hour without any pause, with the bells muffled on one side after the funeral of a ringer, or of a member of the congregation, as a mark of respect.

A muffled peal is not uncommonly rung on the day of the funeral of a ringer or other church officer, as at Addlethorpe, Long Bennington, Butterwick, Caythorpe, Fishtoft, Frieston, Harlaxton, Heckington, Hogsthorpe, Horncastle, Leake, East Pinchbeck, Market Rasen, Searby, Skirbeck, and at Swineshead.

At Boston a dumb peal is rung at the burial of a ringer, concluding with an open peal: at Spalding, a dumb peal is rung on the Sunday evening after the funeral of any church official.

At Louth a dumb peal is not only rung at the funeral of a ringer or other church officer, but a similar peal is rung in the evening. The custom of ringing dumb peals there appears to have been a common one formerly, for at a Vestry held on the 26th of April, 1821, it was ordered:—

> "That two guineas be deducted from the salary of the Ringers for every dumb peal which they hereafter ring without the express authority of the Vicar and Churchwardens."*

The ancient custom is echoed at Weston-S.-Mary, where the bell is tolled before the interment, and rung for ten minutes at the close of the Office: and at Barnoldby-le-Beck, East Barkwith, Baston, Owston, and Walcot, where the tenor is tolled after as well as before the interment.

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* *Vestry Book.*

The use of the tenor as a funeral bell is occasionally referred to in the inscription, as at Kirton-in-Holland:—

> May all whom I shall summon to the grave
> The Blessing of a well spent Life Receive

and at Saxilby:—

> I to the church the Living call
> And to the grave do summon all.

The inscription on the tenor at Horbling apparently refers to the ringing after the funeral:—

> Defunctos ploro, vivos voco, *funera claudo.*

In many parishes the tenor is tolled for a few minutes about half-an-hour, or an hour, before the funeral, to give warning to the "bearers," and the neighbours: it is called the

Invitation Bell. This bell is (amongst other places) tolled at Aslackby, Barholme, Benington, Boothby Graffoe, Boothby Pagnell, Branston, Carlton Scroop, Castle Bytham, Caistor, Corby, Folkingham, South Kelsey, Lavington, Leasingham, Normanton, Osbournby, Ruskington, Scotton, Wellingore, Winterton, and South Witham.

In addition to the ringing after Death and at the Funeral, it was the custom, as is well-known, in pre-Reformation times to keep, in some cases, the "month's mind" or monthly commemoration of the dead, and in many others the

Obit, annual, or year-mind, that is, the anniversary of the death of a person, on which day the bells were rung,

and Masses were said for the dead, for which provision had been made by the deceased person, or by his friends. Instances are numerous enough: it will suffice to quote one or two connected with Boston:—William Goodyng—a brother of all the Guilds in that town—left twenty shillings for an obituary service, "all the bells were to be rung, and 20[d] paid therefor." Gilbert Alilaunde, the founder of the Guild of Corpus Christi at Boston, who died in 1354, had his annual obit on the Vigil of S. George, when twenty pence was to be paid "for the ringing of all the bells."*

The Churchwardens of Leverton, in their Accounts, have some entries relating to obits:—

1515. Itm̃ payd for y[e] nobbyt of Water bussche to y[e] preste & clarks & all [ale] & bred ..... vs.

1516. Itm̃ payd for the terment of water bussche & hys wyfe to prestys & clarks & ryngyng & bred & all & chesse ..... vs.

Although such Services have long since ceased, it is rather curious to note that

Commemorative Peals are not unknown: at Harlaxton a full peal is rung yearly from 3.15 to 4 o'clock in the afternoon, on the 11th of January, in memory of Nicholas Harby, who was a ringer and singer in Harlaxton Church. He was buried there on the 11th of January, 1826, aged 84 years: he left £25, the interest to be divided equally among the ringers after the peal on the anniversary of his burial, which is annually done.

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* Pishey Thompson's *Boston*, p. 124.

At Holbeach two such commemorative peals are rung: the one, a dumb peal in memory of Mr. J. Barker, is rung at 3 p.m. on the first Sunday after Christmas day; the other, also a dumb peal, is rung at the same hour on the last day of the year in memory of Mrs. Harrison lately (1879) deceased: there is no endowment in either case.

A commemorative bell of a different character was formerly rung once a year at Welton: a man named Gilbey, who lost his way at night but was guided home by the sound of the Welton bells, left one shilling annually to have a bell rung every year on the anniversary of that event. The ringing of the bell ceased about the year 1820.

The Sanctus Bell. In the Inventories of church goods taken in the reign of Edward VI. where the bells are enumerated, a "sanctus bell," a "sauntes bell," or a "lytyll bell in the stepull," is generally mentioned. It was sometimes hung (in order that it might be heard by those outside, as well as by those within the church) in a little bellcote on the gable of the chancel roof between that portion of the church and the nave, or more usually in a convenient position in the belfry—not unfrequently in a window—so that the rope came down into the church within easy access to the server at the altar. When the priest said the *Sanctus* in the Office of the Mass three strokes were given on this bell (hence its name) so that all —the sick man in his chamber, as well as the worshipper in the church—could join in the holy song of adoration. A goodly number of successors of the Sanctus bell are in the bell-chambers of the Lincolnshire churches, in the "Priest's

bell" or "ting-tang" usually rung immediately before the service begins. These are, in many cases, modern, being probably recasts of the ancient Sanctus-bells. There are, however, several of those ancient bells still remaining in this county: namely at Bicker, Ingoldmells, East Halton, Sutterton, and, with very little doubt, at Algarkirk, Hacconby, Hale Magna, Tallington, and North Witham. There are many Priests' bells in other churches without inscriptions: it is highly probable that some of those also may be of pre-Reformation date.

The Sanctus-bell may have been used upon other occasions than the one just mentioned. Dr. Rock was of opinion that in many parish churches the practice followed at Durham (see p. 162) was the rule, and that some kind of instruction was given every Sunday in the afternoon. To warn the parish of the sermon time a bell or bells would be rung, perhaps at 12 or 1 o'clock. The first ringing would be on the *Signa* or large bells; the last quarter of an hour ringing was, perhaps, on the smaller, or Sanctus-bell.* Hence probably the origin of the modern use of

The Priest's Bell or Ting-tang which is so often sounded immediately before the commencement of Divine service. I have only found one bell mentioned as used as a Priest's bell in pre-Reformation times. At Ware, in Hertfordshire, there was (in 6 Edward VI.) "one lyttle belle to calle for ye priste, clarke, or sexton when they arre absent."†

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* See *Notes and Queries*, Vol. XI. p. 150 (1855).

† Cussan's *Church Goods in Hertfordshire*, p. 123.

This use is called in many parishes "ringing in," and is referred to in *Hudibras* :—

> "Hypocrisy, that thriving'st calling,
> The only saint's bell that rings all in."

This bell is also sometimes called

THE 'TANTONY-BELL or Saint Anthony bell. The small bell in the central tower of Lichfield Cathedral is so called, and the churchwardens of Lamport, Northamptonshire, charged on the 22nd March, 1747, ninepence for "a Tantony-bell rope." The Priest's bell at Weedon Bec in that county was formerly called "Tantony," and at Great Oakley in the same county it is known as "Tintanny." The churchwardens of Leverton in this county charge one penny in 1528 for "a littill sanct' antony bell"—a hand-bell. The name is evidently derived from the emblem of S. Anthony—a small bell attached to his tau-staff, or suspended from the neck of his accompanying pig. Amongst the specimens of heraldry in the windows of stained glass in Stanford Church, Northamptonshire, is a shield ornamented with the garter, and displaying a Tau-cross with a bell appended. The bell is inscribed SAN · ANTHON.*

Again the Sanctus-bell was occasionally called

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* The late Rev. Abner W. Brown, in his *History and Antiquities of Bells*, says the small bells fastened round the necks of cattle in Northamptonshire were called by old people *tanthony bells*. In the year 1131, when the owners of all swine were forbidden to allow them to wander through the streets of Paris, a special exception was made in favour of the Monks of S. Anthony, whose pigs were still to be at large so long as each animal had a bell round its neck.

THE ANTHEM-BELL, as in the Inventory of Church Goods belonging to Oldham, Lancashire, in 1552.*

As just indicated the Priests' bells are usually sounded for a few minutes before the commencement of Divine Service to call the clergy, but the one at S. Botolph's, Lincoln, is used as a "Sacrament-bell;" those at Burgh and Ingoldmells are not now used; neither is that at North Witham, which is now without a rope. Those at Mumby and Tetney are rung as "Early-bells" on Sunday morning at 8 a.m., that at Laceby is called "the Pancake-bell," and that at Alford "the Minute-bell."

THE SACRING-BELL. This was a small hand-bell also used in the Office of the Mass to warn people that the Elevation was about to take place.

It would appear that in mediæval times one (or more) of the large bells was sometimes sounded at the Elevation. In Peckham's Constitutions at Lambeth, 1281, we read:—

> "Let the bells be tolled at the Elevation of the Body of Christ [in the Eucharist] that the people who have not leisure daily to be present at Mass, may, wherever they are, in houses, or fields, bow their knees, in order to the having the indulgences granted by many bishops."†

And again another order was:—

> "The parishioners shall not irreverently incline at the Elevation of the Body of Christ, but adore with all devotion and reverence: wherefore let them be first warned by ringing the little bell, and at the Elevation let the great bell be thrice knolled."‡

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* *Cheetham Soc.* CVII. p. 43.

† *Johnson's English Canons*, Part II. 273. Mr. Walcott in *Parish Churches before the Reformation*, p. 7.

‡ De Quivil: *Wilkins* I. 132, quoted by

A small bell, however, was more usually rung: it is frequently mentioned in Edwardian Inventories of Church Goods as hanging "in the hie chauncell:" at S. Matthew's, Friday Street, London, it hung "at the quyer door." Amongst the plate formerly belonging to Boston Church, and sold by the Mayor and Burgesses in the reign of Edward VI., was "a Sylver belle" weighing eighteen ounces —doubtless a Sacring-bell: and Sacring-bells are mentioned in the sixth year of that King's reign as then remaining in the churches of Harrington, Brinkhill, and Claxby, in this county: possibly they were also found in other churches whose Inventories are not now forthcoming, and also may be classed under the name of small bells or of handbells.

Sometimes a number of small bells affixed to a wheel, which was pulled by a cord, were used to give warning of the Elevation. Eighteen such small bells are said to have hung in the church of Brokenborough, Wilts,* and if I mistake not, a similar arrangement was in use at Achurch in Northamptonshire, where we find "viij lyttell Belles in a chyme hangynge on a wele" mentioned in the Inventory of Church Goods belonging to that parish in 1552.†

This bell was occasionally called

THE AGNUS-BELL, as at Hemswell in this county, from its being rung at the elevation of the chalice at the close of the Canon, followed immediately by the singing of the "*Agnus*."

Cranmer, in his Visitation Articles (1549), condemned

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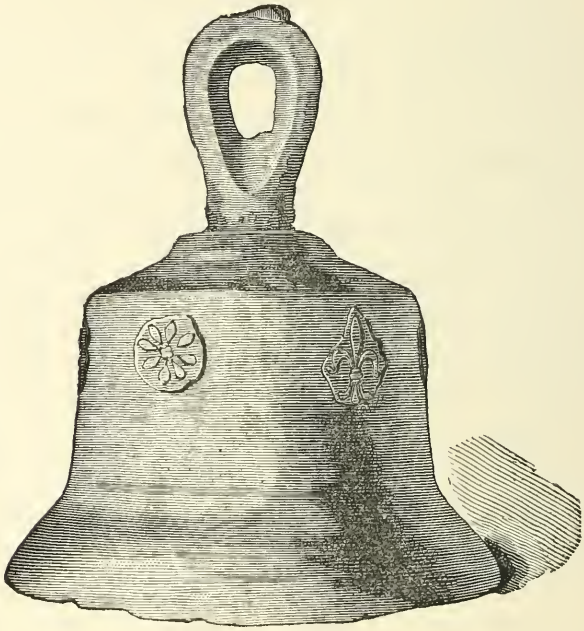
* *Bells of the Church*, p. 107. † *Church Bells of Northants*, p. 139.

the use of "ringing or sacrying Bells" in the time of Communion. He classed it among the customs kept up by those ministers who "Counterfeited the Popish Mass;" and Ridley soon after his appointment to the Bishoprick of London, issued Injunctions (1550) for that diocese in which he forbad the "ringing of the Sacrying Bell." Indeed the necessity for its use passed away when the Reformed Liturgy, or Order of the Holy Communion, was commanded to be used in English in 1549.

An interesting example (as Mr. Peacock believes) of a



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bronze Sacring-bell "was found, in the month of August,

1870, in the parish church of Bottesford near Brigg in this county. It was discovered walled up in a putlog hole in the western wall of the south aisle almost immediately over the half pillar which separates the aisle wall from that of the nave. It is worth remarking that the tongue of this bell is not suspended in the modern fashion from a loop cast in the head, but by a piece of iron, apparently an old nail which is bent so as to pass through two holes pierced on either side of the handle."* By the kind permission of the Society of Antiquaries I am able to give an engraving of this curious little bell, showing it two-thirds the size of the original.

HAND-BELLS. In many of the Inventories of Church Goods from the Lincolnshire parishes in the reign of Edward VI., one or more "handbells" are noted. These small bells were used in a variety of ways in pre-Reformation times. They were used in processions on Rogation days. In Inventories we often meet, as at Addington, Surrey, with "a Procession bell."† The Injunctions of Archbishop Grindal, in 1571, whilst directing "perambulation to be used by the people for viewing the bounds of their parish in the days of the Rogation, commonly called Cross-week or Gang-days," prohibit the wearing of the surplice by the minister, or the carrying of banners or hand-bells. The bell master of Loughborough, Leicestershire, would use one when he went according to his "dooty" every Friday about the town to bid all to pray for all christian

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* *Proceedings of Soc. Antiq.* 2nd S. v. 24. † *Proceedings Soc. Antiq.* 2nd S. v. 29.

souls.* At the obit of William Reede, merchant, of Boston, the bellman and the Sacristan of the Guild were to receive fourpence for making the circuit of the town, proclaiming at each station:—"Ye shall pray for the souls of William Reede of Boston, and Alice, Margaret, and Anne that were his wives, and brothers and sisters in Corpus Christi Guild." So, too, at the obit of Richard Benynton and Joan, his wife, of Boston, the bellman exhorted the people to pray for all christian souls, and to say an *Ave* and a *Pater noster* for charity's sake.†

The Hand-bell was rung in the procession when the Eucharist was borne to the house of the sick or the dying, in order that all, according to the then teaching of the church, might be warned of its approach, and pay reverence to it. The bell so used was sometimes called

THE HOUSELLING-BELL, as at Great Gonerby in this county.‡

Among the church ornaments to be provided by the parishioners in the fourteenth century was "a bell to carry before the Body of Christ in the Visitation of the Sick."§

At the burial of the dead the hand-bell was also used to clear the way, and to call for a prayer for the deceased. It was called

THE CORSE-BELL or LYCH-BELL, and is frequently met with in Church Inventories under those names. The

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* See *Church Bells of Leicestershire*, p. 229.

† Pishey Thompson's *Boston*, pp. 123, 124, and 127.

‡ Peacock's *Church Furniture*, p. 86.

§ Lyndwood, 252, quoted by Mr. Walcott in *Parish Churches before the Reformation*, p. 19.

custom of ringing a small hand-bell before the corpse is still (or was until recently) observed in the parish of Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd in Wales:* and at Oxford also when a member of the University is buried. Indeed the hand-bell was used in a variety of ways in the mediæval church.

Canon Moore of Spalding has in his possession a small bell, five inches and a half in diameter, which was probably one of these ecclesiastical hand-bells. For an inscription it has the initials of "the superscription of His accusation," and the date thus:—

I ▫ N ▫ R ▫ I ▫ M ▫ ccccc I

with a fleur-de-lys between the letters, as shown by the stop. The local tradition is that it "belonged to a moated house in the neighbourhood." By means not now known it had fallen into the hands of the Town-cryer of Whaplode, from whom Canon Moore rescued it.

The Curfew. The origin of the Curfew is well-known. It was heard in Normandy at an early date, and its use was enforced throughout this country—where it appears to have been partially instituted by King Alfred—by William the Conqueror. When it sounded at eight o'clock every evening, all persons were ordered to extinguish fire and candle, hence its name—*couvre-feu*. Although its sound, and its use, were only enforced during the reigns of William the Conqueror and William Rufus—the law of Curfew was abolished by Henry I. in 1100—the custom of ringing the

* *Archæologia Cambrensis*, 4th S. II. 273.

bell still prevails in many parishes in this country. Its continuance is to be attributed to a religious, and not to a civil, purpose. The evening "Hail Mary" was ordered by Pope John XXII. (1316-34), to be said at the sound of a bell called the "*Angelus*," and it is probable the Curfew was continued as a warning to all to say an *Ave* to the Blessed Virgin before retiring to rest. "Thrice every day at Evening the bells are rung that every one may kneel and repeat the Angel's salutation to the Blessed Virgin."* Dr. Rock says: "If this Curfew did not give pious individuals the earliest thought of saying an '*Ave*' at night-fall, the ringing of the bell was in itself so seasonable that it was looked upon, and employed, as a happy incident for calling upon the people, whether in town or country—throughout the land in fact—to say their greetings to the Virgin at sun-down.†"

Previous to the Reformation (as we gather from Hooper's Injunctions in 1551) the ringing of the "Curfaye" in some places was accompanied by, or replaced by, the ringing of all the bells in the steeple.

Although since the Reformation the custom of ringing the Curfew, or last *Angelus*, has gradually, been waning, still the practice lingers in a few Lincolnshire parishes —about twenty—where it has no doubt been continuously followed since its first institution. It is generally still rung at eight o'clock, though in some cases this is varied. It is rung at that hour at Blankney, Deeping S. James (3rd bell),

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* Polyd. Vergil lib. VI. c. 12. † *Church of our Fathers*, III. p. 337.

after which the day of the month is tolled on the tenor, Long Sutton (2nd), Market Rasen (4th), after which the day of the month is given on the 5th, Swineshead (5th), followed by the day of the month on the 6th: also at Gedney (3rd bell) it is rung on every evening excepting Saturday: at Harlaxton (2nd bell) on every evening excepting Saturday and Sunday, after which the day of the month is tolled: at Caistor (3rd bell) every evening excepting Sunday. At Holbeach the treble is rung at 8 o'clock, after which eight knolls are given on the 3rd bell, on every evening excepting Saturday when the Curfew is rung at 7 o'clock followed by seven knolls on the 3rd bell: the knolls being, I suppose, to indicate the hour. At Spalding the 3rd bell is rung at 8 p.m. from 29th September to the 25th March: and at Heckington the Curfew is rung at 8 p.m. from Lady Day to Michaelmas, and at 7 p.m. from Michaelmas to Lady Day, after which the day of the month is tolled.

At Louth it is rung (3rd bell) at 8 p.m. excepting on Saturday evenings, and from Christmas Day to Plough Monday, when it is rung at 7 p.m.; the day of the month is tolled at the end.

At Bourn the Curfew is rung at 8 p.m. excepting on Saturday, and during Harvest, when it is rung at 7 p.m. and so acts as a Gleaning-bell.

At Horncastle the 1st bell is rung as the Curfew at 8 p.m. from Monday to Friday inclusive, and at 7 p.m. on Saturday, commencing on Plough Monday, continuing until Lady Day, old style, inclusive; commencing again on Michaelmas Day, old style, and continuing until the Vigil

of S. Thomas the Apostle inclusive, followed by the tolling of the day of the month. On all "red letter days" the Curfew is not rung.

At Sleaford the 3rd bell is rung from Monday to Friday inclusive at 8 p.m. On Saturday evening, and on the eve of any day on which any special service will be held, as Christmas Day, Ascension Day, Bishop's Visitation, &c., it is rung at 7 p.m.

At Grantham the 1st bell is rung as the Curfew at 8 p.m., followed by the day of the month tolled on the 2nd bell, excepting on the Vigils or Eves of Holy days named in the Church Calendar when the Curfew is not rung.

At S. Mary's, Stamford, the Common bell (7th) is rung every evening, Sundays excepted, at 8 o'clock, after which the day of the month is tolled. The payment for ringing this bell having always been made by the Corporation, there is no mention of it in the Churchwardens' Accounts, but it is thus referred to in those of the Mayor and Chamberlain :—

1709. p^d to Henry Smith his yeares sallary for ringing the 4 & 8 o'clock Bell at St. Marys & at the halls & sessions & 1^s/- for Oyle.....02 . 01 . 00
p^d to Mr Shipley for the 8 a clock bell rope &c. ...00 . 04 . 06

The same payments are found in subsequent years until 1825, since which year the Curfew only has been rung.*

The Curfew is rung at 7 p.m. at Haxey from Michaelmas to Shrove Tuesday: and at the same hour at Potterhan-

* Extracted for me by Mr. Justin Simpson.

worth (1st bell) from Michaelmas to Lady Day, but being an endowed bell by a person who had lost his way and regained it by the sound of a bell ringing there, this ringing at Potterhanworth may possibly not be, although it more probably is, a survival of the ancient Curfew.

The Curfew was rung at Boston, with the day of the month at the close, until the year 1846, but "no funds now:" so too at East Pinchbeck it was rung "until the abolition of Church rates;" it was also rung until recently at Coningsby, Croyland, Donington, Great Grimsby, and at Tattershall, with the day of the month tolled at the close. At Stow it was formerly rung during the winter quarter, and the clerk paid by an endowment left by some one who found his way (after losing it) by the sound of the bells there.

Until about the year 1874 the 5th bell was rung as the Curfew at All Saints, Stamford, at 9 p.m. It is thus referred to in the *Parish Book*:—

> 1607 April 6. Agreed upon by the whole ꝑys the day and yeare below written that a bell shall ringe dayly the whole year at ix o'clocke at night and 4 in the morninge the ringer to have for his service xiij^{s} iiij^{d} by the yeare.

> 1634 April 6. It is agreed y^{t} Cobby have 10 groats more added to his former allowance for hereafter ringing ye bell on Sunday night . . .

The payments for this was afterwards made by the Corporation. We find that at a Common Hall, held on the 9th October, 1651, it was ordered:—

> That frauncis Cole shall have six shillings and eight pence a yeare allowed him forth of the towne stocke for his paines in ringinge of the bell in All saints parish at the howers of ffive o'clocke in the morninge & nyne at night the same to be paid him by the Chamberlaine for the tyme beinge.

This order was confirmed by the Corporation on the 26th of October, 1669.

The Accounts of the Mayor and Chamberlain have one or two references to this ringing at All Saints:—

> 1709 p^d to Geo. Woolley his yeares sallary for ringing the 5 & 9 a clock bell at All Saints due at St. Thomas 1708 ..... 00 . 06 . 08

The same payment appears in the Municipal Accounts until the year 1834.

At S. Michael's Stamford the Curfew was, until quite recently, rung at 7 p.m.: the following entry in the Municipal Records probably refers to it:—

> 1655 April 17. Allowed to John Shepheard ffor looking to the clocke & ringing the bell yearely ..... 0 . 20 . 0*

Amongst the duties "of the Parish Clark of Barrow [upon Humber] as recorded in the Town's Book 1713" is

> Item he is to ring a Bell for the ringing of the Corphew beginning at St. Andrew's Eve and Ending at Candlemas.†

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* I am much indebted to Mr. Justin Simpson for making these extracts from the original Manuscripts.

† MS. preserved in Church Chest.

In some parishes, as we have seen, the continuance of the Curfew was sought to be secured by an endowment, provided by persons, who in times when the roads were badly defined, and crossed an open unenclosed country, lost their way in the gloom of evening, or in the darkness of winter early nights, but were enabled to find their village homes by its welcome sound. Apparently with reference to this end it is sometimes only rung during the winter months.

The ringing of the Curfew was, for a long period, the signal for the closing of all taverns and ale-houses. In 1291 no wine was to be drawn after it had rung; and although, until the reign of Henry VII., ale was sold without any restriction, still all public-houses had to be closed at the tolling of Curfew.* It would appear to have been frequently, perhaps on that account, rung at nine o'clock in the larger towns: that was the hour formerly at All Saints, Stamford, Stamford Baron, and at Northampton All Saints, and is now the time at Towcester, Northamptonshire. So it is, and has been for many years, at S. Martin's, Leicester, where it was referred to in the following stringent bye-law passed 22 February, 25th Elizabeth. "Item, that the keeper of any ale-house that suffers any townsman to remain in his house after the Curfew bell hath rung (without lawful cause) shall forfeit 12*d.* to be paid presently, or else to remaining in ward that night."†

The ringing at nine o'clock in the evening of Bow bell in London was also, in 1469, the signal for the closing of

* See *Palmer's Perlustration of Great Yarmouth*, I. 30 and 85. † Nichols.

shops. From that circumstance the Curfew in the country was sometimes called "Bow-bell."*

The Early Morning Bell. The origin of the ringing of the Morning-bell arose from an extension of the practice of saying an *Ave* to the Virgin at nightfall. In 1399 Archbishop Arundel issued a mandate commanding that at early dawn one "Our Father" and five "Hail Marys" should be said.† As a reminder to all of this duty the *Angelus* was rung. This bell was often called "Gabriel" after the Angel of the Annunciation. The 3rd bell at Branston, the 2nd at Holton-le-Clay and the 3rd at Waith are so called: the 2nd at Gunby S. Peter and the 3rd at South Somercotes are inscribed:—

DULCIS SI(S)TO MELIS VOCOR
CAMPANA GABRIELIS

others again—Althorpe 1st, Baumber 2nd, Mavis Enderby 3rd, Manby 2nd, Scopwick 3rd, and Somersby 1st—say:—

MISSI DE CELIS HABEO NOMEN
GABRIELIS

and others bear an inscription indicative of their purpose

personet hec celis dulcissima vox gabrielis

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* It was so at S. Martin's, Leicester, see *Church Bells of Leicestershire*, p. 115; and at Blakesley, Northamptonshire, see *Notes and Queries*, 6th S. II. 264. It should however be noted that in a Sermon published in 1616, the largest bell of a ring of five was called "the tenor or bow-bell." Ibid, p. 67.

† Walcott's *Sac. Arch.* Rock's *Church of our Fathers.*

as at Belton (4th), Haxey (4th), Killingholme (3rd), and Sedgebrooke (2nd).

These bells were, doubtless, rung as the *Angelus*, and some of the *Ave Maria* bells too (of which there are several still remaining in this county) were, probably, used for the same purpose.

The Early Morning-bell is still rung at Gedney (3rd bell) at 5 o'clock in the summer: at 6 o'clock in the winter. At Bourn, Crowle, Deeping S. James (3rd), Market Deeping (5th), Epworth, Heckington, Market Rasen (4th), Sleaford (1st, used to be rung at 5 a.m.), Long Sutton (2nd), and Witham-on-the-Hill (4th), the morning-bell is rung at six o'clock: the day of the month is tolled at Sleaford after the ringing.

At Rippingale the 1st bell is rung at 7 a.m. from the 5th of April to the 11th of October: at 8 o'clock during the winter: at Folkingham the treble is rung daily at 8 a.m.: at Belton the 3rd bell is rung at 6 a.m. from Candlemas to Michaelmas.

At Spalding the 3rd bell had previous to 1803 been rung from time immemorial as the Morning *Angelus* at six o'clock. In that year the following resolution was passed by the Vestry:—

> "1803. As it is the sense of this meeting that the Bell usually rung every morning at six of the clock from 29th septr to 28th march would be of more service if rung at 7 o'clock it is hereby agreed that the ringing of the Bell be at 7 o'clock instead of the afore mentioned hour of six."*

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* *Vestry Book.*

This alteration of the hour did not last long: the bell has been again rung at the old hour for more than half a century past from the 25th of March to the 29th of September.

At Burgh the 6th bell is rung at 5 a.m. from the 11th October to the 11th November: at 6 o'clock from the latter date to the 21st February: and again at 5 a.m. from that date to the 21st of March, after which the day of the month is tolled.

Until recently a bell was rung at 5 a.m. at Croyland (until 1874), Grantham, and at East Pinchbeck (2nd) "until the abolition of church rates." At Boston, too, the 1st bell was rung at that hour until 1846 when it was given up "for want of funds:" a reference to it is made in an Order made by the Corporation in 1554:—

> "That 13^{s} & 4^{d} be given to the persons to ring the morning and evening bell."

At Donington, Great Grimsby (until 1840), Horncastle (1st), S. Mary-le-Wigford, Lincoln, and S. Michael's, Stamford, a bell was formerly rung at 6 a.m.: and at S. Benedict's, Lincoln, it was rung at that hour in the summer, at 7 o'clock in the winter.

At S. Peter-at-Arches, Lincoln, a bell was formerly rung at 7 a.m.: at Harlaxton and Carlton-le-Moorland (in summer) at 4 a.m.: at Tattershall at 8 a.m.: and at Swineshead at 5 a.m. in summer, at 6 o'clock in the winter.

At Tydd S. Mary an early morning bell used to be rung "to call men and carts to work:" and at Louth the 3rd bell was, sixty years ago, rung at 5 a.m. and was called the

"getting up bell:" subsequently, until about the year 1868, it was rung at 8.30 a.m.

At Coningsby an early bell was formerly rung, and there was a house given rent free to the man who acted as ringer: the house has long since fallen down, and the land upon which it stood has been added to the churchyard.

At Stamford as we have already noted under the ringing of the Curfew (see pp. 208 and 206), the morning bell was rung at All Saints' at five o'clock, and at S. Mary's at four o'clock: the payment for the ringing at the latter church was regularly made until the year 1825, when the ringing of the morning bell there ceased.

At Barton-on-Humber, writes Mr. Ball, the Jury appointed a man to call up the townspeople between 3 and 5 o'clock in the morning, and also to ring a bell at 5 a.m. from Michaelmas to Lady-day.*

This ringing of the Early Morning-bell has long been used (as confessedly in past days at Tydd S. Mary and at Louth) as simply a call to daily work: indeed the inscription on the 1st bell at Horncastle says that:—

LECTUM FUGE DISCUTE SOMNUM,

and so on the 3rd at Friskney:—

LABOREM SIGNO ET REQUIEM.

Other Daily Bells. A mid-day *Angelus* was rung in France in the fifteenth century. Although that custom

* Ball's *Barton*, Part II. p. 4.

appears to have been followed in some places in England (as at Cropedy in Oxfordshire, where the Ave-bell was rung daily at noon as well as in the morning and evening (see p. 168), the practice does not appear to have been at all general in this county. In some parishes, however, a mid-day bell is rung. Such is the case in a very few in Lincolnshire.

At three places in the Isle of Axholme—Epworth, Crowle, and Belton—a bell is rung (Sundays excepted) at 6 a.m.; at noon, and again at 6 o'clock in the evening: at the latter place—Belton—it (the 3rd bell) is rung at noon only from Michaelmas to Candlemas.

At Rippingale and at Folkingham, in addition to the ringing of the treble bell early in the morning, it is rung at one o'clock p.m., at the latter place now (1880) by a woman named Armstrong, who has charge of the clock and keeps the keys of the Church, the Yard, and the Belfry.

At Market Deeping the 5th bell is rung at 6 a.m., and again at 6 p.m. in the summer, at 8 o'clock in the winter.

In the absence of all evidence to the contrary, the use of these mid-day bells in this and other counties may be attributed to a secular origin—the giving warning to agricultural labourers and others of the time—rather than to a religious one.

In several parishes a bell is rung for Morning and Evening Prayer daily: of such I have made no note.

The Pancake-bell. In addition to the occasional confession of sin to the priest, it was considered, in mediæval times, that the week preceding Lent was specially an appro-

priate time for all to perform that duty. It was hence called Shrove-tide, and the Tuesday in it called Shrove, Shrive, or Confession-Tuesday—shrive being an old Saxon word for confession. The confession was made in the church, where the priest sat in an open chair, or stall, to hear the confessions of his people, to award them such penance as he thought good for them, or to give them absolution. In order that all might be reminded of this duty, and be informed that the priest was ready to receive them, a bell was rung calling them to the church. This was the origin of the ringing of the bell on Shrove-Tuesday.

But another custom was followed in those times when Lent was more strictly observed than now as a time of abstinence from flesh meat. On Shrove-Tuesday, we are told by a writer in *Notes and Queries*, the housewives, in order to use up all the grease, lard, dripping, &c., made pancakes, and the apprentices, and others about the house were summoned to the meal by the ringing of a bell, which was naturally called "the Pancake-bell."*

The ringing of the Shrive-bell, now called the Pancake-bell, is still continued in a goodly number of Lincolnshire parishes on Shrove-Tuesday.

It is rung at 11 o'clock in the following places:—

Aslackby (2nd bell), Bassingthorpe, Belton, Isle of Axholme (1st), Long Bennington (1st), Billingborough (4th), Blyborough (for five minutes), Bourn (1st), Branston (3rd), Burton Coggles (1st bell), Caistor (4th), Carlton-le-Moorland (2nd), Claypole (3rd), Coleby,

* *Notes and Queries*, 3rd S. vi. 404.

Colsterworth (1st), Corby (3rd), Crowle (1st), Market Deeping (4th), Digby (1st), Norton Disney (1st), Doddington, Doddington Dry, Donington (2nd), Dunsby (1st), Epworth (3rd), Grayingham, Haceby, Hale Magna (largest sound bell), Haxey (tenor), Helpringham, Hemswell, Heckington (tenor), Holbeach (7th bell for fifteen minutes), Ingoldsby (2nd), Kirton-in-Holland (5th), Kirton-in-Lindsey, Kirkby Laythorpe, Laughton, Lavington, Osbournby (2nd), Owston (tenor), Ruskington (3rd), Scotter, Scotton (2nd), Sleaford, Stragglethorpe (2nd), Swinstead, Swinderby (tenor), Tattershall, Thorpe S. Peter, Upton, Washingborough (1st), and Wragby.

At Harlaxton the 3rd bell is rung at the same hour: that bell being used, it is said, "because Shrove-Tuesday falls on the 3rd day of the week." At Horbling and at Scothorne (1st) the Pancake-bell is also rung at that time, when the children turn out of school, and have a holiday.

The Pancake-bell is rung at 10 a.m. at Burgh (tenor bell for an hour), Croyland (4th bell) and at Spalding (2nd bell): at Coningsby the 5th bell is rung at 10.30; at Surfleet a bell is rung at 10.45; at Leasingham, the tenor, at 11.30, and at North Scarle the treble is rung at 11.15.

The Pancake-bell is rung at noon (12 o'clock) at Bardney (3rd bell), Brant Broughton, Dowsby, Owmby, and Waddington (1st bell): also at Market Rasen, where two bells (5th and 6th) are rung: that is the case at Blakesley and at Oundle, Northamptonshire, where the two bells are supposed to say "Pan on!"

At Grantham the tenor is rung for half-an-hour commencing at 9 a.m. The bells were formerly allowed to be jangled by the people, and much damage was done, as is

shown by an order passed by the Corporation in 1646, which directed that whereas an innumerable concourse of old and young were wont to enter the church on Shrove-Tuesday, ascend to the roofs and olliers, jangle the bells, and break the chime wires, the belfry door was to be kept locked, and such misdemeanors prevented in future.*

At Stamford it is the custom at All Saints' to raise and fall separately the 5th, 4th, and 3rd, or other three bells, commencing at eleven o'clock: at S. George's, S. Mary's, and S. Michael's each bell is raised and lowered, one after the other.

At Horncastle the 3rd bell is rung at ten o'clock: until comparatively recent times the shops were closed when the Pancake-bell began, and the day was kept a close holiday.

The custom of ringing the Shrive or Pancake-bell is gradually dying out, as is shown by the number of parishes in which it is remembered, though not now followed: amongst them may be mentioned:—

Addlethorpe, Alford, Althorpe, Ancaster, Belton, Benington, Benniworth, Billinghay, Burton-by-Lincoln, Caythorpe (until quite recently), South Cockerington, Corringham, Denton, Dunholm, Gedney Hill (discontinued in 1830), Hemingby (rung 50 years ago), Hibaldstow, Honington (rung 50 years ago), Kelsey North, Kirkby-cum-Osgodby, S. Botolph's, Lincoln (rung 40 years ago), Louth (rung 45 years ago), Ludborough, Mareham-on-the-Hill, Nocton, Partney (rung until 1873), Quadring, Middle Rasen, Rippingale, Scredington, Sibsey, Stainby, Stickney, Sutterton (discontinued

* Street's *Notes on Grantham*, pp. 80, 81. The practice of jangling the bells was allowed in Northamptonshire, see *Church Bells of Northamptonshire*, p. 147.

about 1845), Tetney, Thornton-le-Moor (treble at noon), Thorpe-on-the-Hill, Tydd S. Mary, High Toynton, Ulceby, Welby (discontinued thirty years ago), Welton (until 1876), and Westborough (until 1876).

At Nettleton and at Stow (where it was formerly rung) the children left the schools for a holiday at the sound of the Pancake-bell.

At Weston S. Mary it used to be rung at intervals all day, until forty years ago when it was discontinued.

Shrove-Tuesday has long been considered a holiday by the young people, jangling the church bells was not uncommon; and cock-fighting, cock-throwing, and football were, until recently, usual amusements.

At Appleby the Pancake-bell was rung at 11 o'clock until about the year 1865. The farm servants left off work for the day to eat pancakes and to play at football. Football ceased about the year 1845 when a lad's leg was broken in the game. Although the bell is not now rung, the school children have a half-holiday according to old usage.

At Winterton also the 1st bell was rung as the Pancake-bell at 11 o'clock until about the year 1869. Apprentices were let off work when the bell sounded, and played at football in the afternoon: the ringers got their pancakes, and then rang a peal.

In some parishes, as at Navenby and Wellingore, this bell was formerly rung by the oldest apprentice in the parish: the apprentices used to consider Shrove-Tuesday a day specially licensed for rough and boisterous amusements.

Years ago, writes a correspondent in *Notes and Queries*, Shrove-Tuesday was in South Lincolnshire the day for beginning the battledoor and shuttlecock and whipping-top season.*

At Laceby the Priest's bell is called "Pancake-bell."

Shakespeare, in *All's well that ends well*, speaks of a pancake as fit for Shrove-Tuesday, and Taylor the Water Poet (1630) mentions the Pancake-bell as being then rung on that day: so too in Poor Robin's Almanack, 1684, we read:—

> But hark I hear the Pancake-bell
> And fritters make a gallant smell.

Advent Ringing. At Market Rasen a peal is rung early in the morning of the first Sunday in Advent. It is customary in Lincolnshire to practice ringing during the weeks in Advent, and to ring much during the Christmas season: such is the case at

Addlethorpe, West Ashby, Barkstone, Benniworth, Benington, Binbrooke, Bicker, Branston, Carlton Scroop, North Coates, South Cockerington, Coleby, Cotes Magna, Donington, South Elkington, Folkingham, Fotherby, Frampton, Gedney Hill (for a month on each side of Christmas), Goxhill (twice a week from 5th November to Lent), Great Grimsby (for the month before Christmas), Harlaxton, Healing (as at Goxhill), Hogsthorpe (from 5th November to Christmas), Irby-on-Humber, Kirton-in-Holland, Lavington (twice a week from 5th November to Christmas), Lea, Legbourne, Leverton, Ludborough, Moulton, Newton, Normanton, South Ormsby, East Pinchbeck, Middle Rasen, Scothorne, Scremby,

* 5th S. XII. 155.

Searby, Skellingthorpe, Skendleby, Swineshead, Tattershall (from 5th November to New Year's Day), Tetney (a peal for an hour every evening, Sundays excepted, during Advent), Theddlethorpe All Saints, North Thoresby, Timberland, South Willingham (every night for six weeks before Christmas), and at Willoughby (from 5th November to New Year's Day).

At Claxby they ring once in the first week in Advent, twice in the second, thrice in the third, and four times in the fourth or last week.

At South Kelsey the bells are rung two evenings in the week from Kelsey Feast (old Martinmas) till Christmas; and at Epworth peals are rung from 7 to 8 p.m. on the Saturday night next following Martinmas day, and then on every Thursday and Saturday evening until the Saturday night before "Fastens Eve" (*i.e.* Shrove-Tuesday). It is thought probable that the Thursday night's ringing originated in the idea that Thursday being Epworth market day, and there being formerly much water between that place and Doncaster, it would be useful to guide any one back to Epworth who might lose his way on returning to Doncaster: it is further said that the ringing arose from the fact of a traveller being lost on the moors and finding his way to Epworth church by the sound of the bells.

The Churchwardens' Accounts at Corringham show that the bells there were formerly rung from the 5th November, to the 14th of February, and that the ringers were allowed three pounds of candles, and ten shillings worth of beer.

Christmas Peals are rung in very many parishes on the Eve of the Festival: such is the case at Barkston, Billing-

borough, Corby, Donington, Great Grimsby, Halton-Holgate, South Kelsey, East Keal, Osbournby, Rippingale, Spilsby, and Welton.

The ringing at midnight is an old custom: at Ruardean, Gloucester, there is a benefaction to the ringers of 5*s*. a year under a Deed of the Rev. Anthony Sterry, Vicar of Lidney, dated in the fortieth year of Elizabeth, "for ringing a peal on Christmas-eve about mid-night for two hours in commemoration of the Nativity."* This midnight ringing is heard at (amongst other places) Springthorpe in this county.

Merry peals are rung on Christmas morning at five o'clock at South Kelsey: an hour later (6 a.m.) peals are rung at South Cockerington, Edenham (and again in the afternoon), Holbeach All Saints, Scothorne, Swineshead, Thornton Curtis, and at Westborough.

At an early hour, or during the day, peals are rung at

Belton near Grantham, Bonby, Branston, Broughton, Crowle, Denton, Market Deeping, Donington, Dorrington, Ewerby, Folkingham, Fulbeck, Gunby S. Peter, Harlaxton, Heckington, Helpringham, Heydour, Horncastle, Irby-on-Humber, Laceby, Lavington, Lincoln (S. Botolph's, S. Peter-at-Arches, and S. Peter-at-Gowts), Linwood, Louth, Luddington, Navenby, Newton, South Ormsby, East Pinchbeck, Market Rasen, Middle Rasen, Saxby All Saints, Sibsey, Skellingthorpe, Skirbeck, South Somercotes, Spalding, Stainby, S. Mary's, Stamford, Swinderby, Waddington, Wyberton, and doubtless many other places.

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* Edwards' *Old English Customs*, p. 6.

At Ashby-de-la-Launde the bells are not only rung at 8 a.m., but also for Divine Service.

At Amcotts a peal is rung at 8 a.m. instead of the usual single bell.

At Caistor the bells are rung for some days before the Festival.

At Stow they are rung early on Christmas morning, and also on every day during the following week, finishing on New Year's Eve. This is an ancient practice, as is apparent from the direction of S. Dunstan, made in the tenth century in his Rule for the Reformation of Monasteries, that "at mass, nocturns, and vespers from the Feast of Innocents to the Circumcision all the bells should be rung as was the custom in England."

At Lea a peal is rung before chiming for service: and at Sleaford the bells are rung at 10 a.m., 4 p.m., and again after Evening Service on Christmas Day.

Peals were formerly rung, but not now, at Althorpe and at Alvingham: the churchwardens of Kirton-in-Lindsey refer to the custom in their accounts for 1640:—

"It' given to the Ringers at Christenmasse day at morne xij*d.*"

Easter Day. Peals are heard in many parishes on this Great Festival.

At Mavis Enderby the bells are rung at break of day.

At Addlethorpe, Barkston, Belton near Grantham, Broughton, North Coates, Denton, Edenham, Gunby S. Nicolas, Harlaxton, Heydour, Holbeach All Saints, Lincoln (S. Botolph, S. Peter-at-Arches, and S. Peter-at-Gowts),

Linwood, Louth, Navenby, Market Rasen, Skellingthorpe, Skirbeck, Stainby, Swinderby, Swineshead, Thornton Curtis, and at Waddington the bells are rung joyously early in the morning: that is also the case at South Cockerington, where the bells are also rung before and after each Service.

So, too, on other Festivals the bells are sometimes rung:—

THE EPIPHANY: Peals are rung at Swineshead.

ASCENSION DAY: Peals are rung at North Coates and at Heydour.

WHITSUNDAY PEALS are rung early in the morning at Harlaxton, Lincoln (S. Peter-at-Arches, and S. Peter-at-Gowts), Linwood, Louth, Navenby, and Skellingthorpe.

TRINITY SUNDAY. The bells of S. Peter-at-Arches and S. Peter-at-Gowts, Lincoln, are rung from seven to eight o'clock in the morning.

LENTEN RINGING. At Broughton they chime (not ring as usual) the bells for Divine Service on Ash-Wednesday.

At Gedney Hill, during Advent and Lent, the 2nd bell only is used for week-day Services: and at S. Botolph's, Lincoln, the bells are only chimed, not rung, during the same seasons.

At Barrow-on-Humber it was one of the duties of the Parish Clerk in 1713:—

> "Item He is to ring a Bell every working day from monday the first whole week in Lent, until Easter, except such days as there is prayers in the church."*

* MSS. preserved in Church Chest.

That "Duty" is more clearly expressed in an old Survey or "Terrar" of that parish thus:—

> "The Clarke Receiveth from every Cottager at Easter three pence and from every Husbandman for every Plough Land eight pence, and for Ringing the Day Bell and Night Bell in Harvest two pecks of wheat, *being also obliged to ring at Nine a Clock and four a Clock all the time of Lent.*"*

I suppose we are to understand that this ringing of a bell at the hours of Matins and Evensong was to take place every day, although no Service was said, excepting on Litany and Holy days, when Divine Service would really be said, and that rather later in the morning. A similar custom was formerly in vogue at Cottingham, Northamptonshire, where a bell was rung daily at 11 a.m. during Lent, for doing which the clerk collected eggs at Easter.

Good Friday Use. At Winterton one bell only is used in Holy Week, and the tenor tolled for Services on Good Friday.

At Scawby one bell only is rung on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday in Holy Week.

At S. Botolph's, Lincoln, the tenor bell is rung at 8.0, 9.0, and 10.30 in the morning. For the three hours Service (12.0 to 3.0 p.m.) the tenor is muffled on one side, and in addition to being rung for Service, six strokes are given each quarter of an hour, and at 3 o'clock it is rung for five minutes. The tenor is the only bell used from that time until Easter morning.

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* MSS. preserved in Church Chest.

At Broughton the bells are chimed, instead of being rung, for Divine Service.

At S. Peter-at-Arches, Lincoln, the tenor bell only is used for the Services on Good Friday.

At Horncastle the tenor is first tolled, then rung, for Divine Service on this day, after which the 2nd bell is rung as on Sundays.

At Aisthorpe the tenor bell is tolled at 3 p.m. and at Caistor a muffled peal is rung at that hour.

Saints' Days' Echoes. The curious custom of ringing a bell as a reminder of Services no longer said, which was formerly followed, during Lent, at Barrow-on-Humber (see p. 224) finds almost a duplicate at Messingham, where on Saints' Days, when there is no service said, a bell is rung for half-an-hour at eleven o'clock in the morning.

S. James' Day. The churchwardens of Kirton-in-Lindsey (1610-1623) and of other places formerly made entries of payments for ringing on this day, which may have been a compliment to the name of the reigning sovereign—James the First.

S. Andrew's Day too was announced in the same way at Kirton-in-Lindsey in 1658—that is during the commonwealth. A bell is now rung on this day at Bozeat in Northamptonshire, and is called 'Tandrew, or S. Andrew's bell, and is there supposed to have, in times past, had some connection with the celebration of the day as the anniversary of the Patron Saint of the lacemakers. A similar reason may have caused the ringing at Kirton-in-Lindsey,

or it may have been a survival of a custom of ringing on the anniversary of the Patron Saint of Scotland introduced after the union of the English and Scotch crowns.

The Gowrie Conspiracy. The bells of Kirton-in-Lindsey were also rung in the reign of James I., on the 5th of August: which day was formerly kept in England as a holiday to commemorate the escape of that monarch (when ruling over Scotland alone) from death at the hands of the Earl of Gowrie and his brother Alexander Ruthven on that day in the year 1600.

New Year's Eve. The bells are rung on New Year's Eve at—amongst other places—Barkston, Halton Holgate, East Keal, Linwood, Osbournby, Saxby All Saints, Spilsby, and Welton.

New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. The old year is rung out, and the new rung in, at Ancaster, Ashby-de-la-Launde, Billingborough, Carlton Scroop, North Coates, Cotes Magna, Corby, Edenham, South Elkington, Healing, Heckington, Lea, Lincoln (S. Peter-at-Gowts), Normanton, Owston, Middle Rasen, Sleaford, Spalding, Stamford (All Saints and S. Mary), Stow, and at Winterton: also at Holbeach All Saints, where at midnight the bells are "fired" three times three.

At Aisthorpe and at Mareham-le-Fen they toll the old year out and ring the new year in.

At S. Botolph's, Lincoln, they ring a half-muffled peal for midnight service, and an open peal whilst the *Te Deum* is sung at twelve o'clock.

At Market Rasen they ring with partly muffled bells on

New Year's Eve; at midnight they toll twelve tolls; then welcome the new year with an open peal.

At Stainby and Waltham the old year is rung out with a muffled peal, and the new year rung in with an open one.

At Caistor, Fulbeck, Heydour, Irby-on-Humber, East Pinchbeck, Scothorne, Sibsey, South Somercotes, and Thornton Curtis, the new year is rung in with a peal.

At Donington a peal is rung on New Year's Eve and again on New Year's Day.

At South Kelsey they ring on new year's eve, and again at 5 o'clock on new year's morning.

Formerly, when the ringers could be paid, the bells were rung on new year's eve and morning at Althorpe, and when the bells could be rung at Great Grimsby; so too, at Kirton-in-Lindsey, the bells were rung on new year's morning upwards of two centuries ago, as is shown by the following extract from the accounts of the Churchwardens there for the year 1632:—

Item to the ringers of new yeare day morninge ..... xij*d.*

Hallowmas or All Hallows' Ringing. There was formerly much ringing on the Vigil of All Saints, the bells being kept going all through the night.

The Accounts of the Churchwardens of Leverton have some entries relating to that custom:—

1524. Itm̃ payd to Wyllya' Josson Carpentar for helpyng of ye bellfray agayns halomese..... v*d.*

1526. Paid to Rodlay ye wryght for me'dyng of ye bells agayns halomes ..... iiij*d.*

Henry the Eighth suppressed this ringing through the night on the Vigil of All Saints by an order addressed to Cranmer:—"Forasmuch" said that document, "as that Vigil is abused as other Vigils were, our pleasure is, as you require, that the said Vigil shall be abolished, as the others be, and there shall be no watching nor ringing, but as be commonly used upon other holidays at night."

The custom was revived at Leverton in the reign of Queen Mary as the Churchwardens' charges show:—

1556. It' p^d for the full contentation of the ryngeres vpon alhallow nyght ..... xix*d. ob.*

All Saints' Eve being, I suppose, meant.

The day after All Saints was known as

All Souls' Day, a comparatively modern festival of the Roman Church, founded on the doctrine of Purgatory, and styled the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed. It was sometimes called

Soulemas Day,* and there was again much ringing on its Vigil. The Services of the day being for the benefit of all christian souls, a general collection appears to have been made from all the people—from the living for the benefit of the dead—either in the church or through the parish, to pay for the night-long ringing of the bells. Thus at Holy Trinity, Coventry, in 1462, it was the duty of the first Deacon to "go on all halowe day at evyn among ye pepyll in ye northe syd off ye Churche and gedyer money off them

* *Paston Letters*, III. 170; IV. 238.

for ye ringars y^t^ ryng for all crystyn sols:" and in like manner the second Deacon was to collect "in ye sowthe syde off ye churche."* "The watching and ringing of bells all the night upon Alhallow day at night" was forbidden in 1546 as it was the warning for All Souls' day, but the practice was revived in Queen Mary's time.

We find a reference to this ringing, and to the collection from the people in the Accounts of the Churchwardens of Leverton:—

1557. It' p^d^ for the full paym̃et of the ryngeres vpon psalmes nyght over & besyds towe & twentye pencs gatheryd of the paryshyoners ..... xiiij*d.*

"Psalmes" is an attempt at Somas or Soulmas. The ringing continued all through the night until the morning of All Souls, when the Morrow-mass was sung.

S. Hugh's Day. The bells of several parishes in Lincolnshire were formerly rung on this day.

In the Churchwardens' Accounts of Market Deeping is found:—

1588. P^d^ for bread & drinke on St Hughes daye & the two days followynge ..... xvj*d.*

and several small payments about the bells.

Those of Kirton-in-Lindsey give:—

1580. Itm̃ aganste san hew day for warke to the belles ... ij*s.*

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* Quoted by Mr. Ellacombe in *Bells of the Church*, p. 276-7.

The same entry occurs in the following year. A few years later we have :—

1597. Itm̃ vpon sante hue daye ..... viij*d.*

So those at Leverton :—

1580. Imp'mis p^d^ to Thom̃s Skottyll for one day worke aboute the bells before St. hewe day ..... viij*d.*
1585. Itm̃ p^d^ for bread & ale to ye ringers on St. hewe day xiij*d.*
1586. Itm̃ p^d^ to the rynggers on St. hewe day ..... xij*d.*
[Similar payments in 1589, 1590, 1595, 1597.]
1598. Itm̃ p^d^ to viij ringgers on St. hughes day ..... iiij*s.*

In later years the ringers were regaled with "bread, drinck & cheeze:" for the "drinck" a strike of "mawlt" was brewed :—

1602. It' p^d^ for a strik mawlt for the Ringers against St. Hughe day ..... ij*s.* iiij*d.*
It' p^d^ for thre pecke of Wheat & one of Rye then & grindinge them ..... ij*s.* viij*d.*
It' for Thre stone of Beif & white bread that day expended ..... vj*s.*
It' p^d^ for greise & Candle then ..... vij*d.*

The Accounts of the Churchwardens of S. John Baptist, Stamford, say :—

1589-90. Itm̃ to the Ringers upon St. hewes day for bread & drynck for them ..... xij*d.*
1595-6. Itm̃ gyven to ye Ringers on sanct hewyghes day xij*d.*
Itm̃ for Candle on St. hewyhe nyght ..... ij*d.*

These ringings were not, however, in honour of S. Hugh, but in honour of the Accession of Queen Elizabeth which

took place upon S. Hugh's day—and which saint's day, in accordance with ancient custom, was frequently quoted as a date instead of the day and the month—17th November, 1558: so the Churchwardens of Leverton, in 1594, instead of saying, as usual, S. Hugh's day, give the date thus:—

> 1594. Itm̃ expended on the Ringgers the xvij day of November ..... xix*d.*

those of S. John Baptist, Stamford, say:—

> 1601-2. On the crownation day for 2 belrops ..... iij*d.*

and those of Market Deeping:—

> 1587. Itm̃ p^d^ to ye ringers on the Coronation daye ..... iij*s.* vj*d.*

The anniversary of the Accession of Queen Elizabeth was first publicly celebrated about the year 1570,* and became known as the

QUEEN'S DAY: it is so called in the Parish Book of All Saints, Stamford:—

> "1591. Ap. 5. It is accorded that hereafter for the ringers one the Queene's daye the allowance shall be but v*s.*"

and in the Accounts of the Churchwardens of Market Deeping to which reference has already been made, where the ringing is sometimes said to have taken place on S. Hugh's day, sometimes on the Coronation day, and sometimes on

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* See Nicolas' *Chronology of History*, p. 168.

the Queen's day, all meaning that it was in honour of the Queen's Accession :—

1592. Itm̃ to nine men to ringe on ye Queene's daye ..... iv*s.* vj*d.*
1593. Itm̃ for bread & ale grese & candle on ye Queene's daye ..... ij*s.* viij*d.*

The celebration of the day was long kept in many places, by the lighting of bonfires and ringing of bells: indeed in London, where the bells began to ring about 3 a.m., the day was more or less one of violent political and religious excitement until the Accession of George the First. The ringers at Bowden-Magna, Leicestershire, still receive one shilling annually, left to them by Richard Kestin, under his Will dated the 7th of August, 1674, "for their pains in ringing on the 17th day of November for ever, in thankful remembrance of restoring the Gospel, and removing Popish Idolatry, and bringing in Queen Elizabeth."*

Dedication Peals are rung at Aubourn, Branston, Caythorpe, Hale Magna, Haxey, Heydour, East Pinchbeck, Rippingale, Skellingthorpe, and at other places.

At Sibsey a peal is rung on the morning of the first Monday in August, commonly called "Sibsey Feast Day." As the church is dedicated to S. Margaret, whose festival day is the 20th of July, it seems likely that on the occasion of the alteration of style, in 1752, the parishioners kept their ancient festival on the date in the new style that corresponded with the 20th of July in the old style. The

* See *Charity Commissioners' Report*, 1837, p. 223.

Sunday following this date would be the principal religious celebration or festival, and the next day, Monday, the principal secular festival day, upon which the bells were rung.

Baptism Peal. At Searby a peal is rung for ten minutes after the Sacrament of Holy Baptism has been administered; and at Fulbeck the 4th bell is rung prior to the Service in which the Ministration takes place.

Confirmation Peals are rung at Donington and doubtless in many other places when that Holy Rite is administered.

Banns Peal, that is a peal after Divine Service on Sunday morning when the Banns of an intended marriage are first "put up," is rung at Aisthorpe, Ancaster, Ashby-de-la-Launde, Barkston, Barnoldby-le-Beck, Bassingthorpe, Bottesford (sometimes), Carlton Scroop, Claypole, Claxby, Denton, Eveden, Fulbeck, Heapham, Irby-on-Humber, Kirkby Laythorpe, Kirkby Underwood, Legbourne, Normanton, Norton Disney, Middle Rasen, Redbourne, Ropsley, Rothwell, Scotter, Skellingthorpe, Springthorpe, Thorpe-on-the-Hill, Welby, North Witham, South Willingham, and at Yarburgh.

The same custom is followed at Bonby, when desired. At South Kelsey the peal is rung in the evening; at Swayfield the customary fee (*2s. 6d.*) for entering the Banns is appropriated by the clerk for his services in the belfry; at Laceby the peal is given if the parties concerned are "popular people."

The single bells are sounded at Beelsby, Caenby, Torrington East and Torrington West.

A Peal is rung after the third publication at Asterby ("when money is forthcoming"), Cotes Magna, Heydour, Saxby (occasionally), Scotton, and at Upton; after the first and third times of publication at Long Bennington, Ingoldsby, Lavington, and at Westborough; and after each publication at Alvingham, North Cockerington, Elsham, and at Searby.

The ringing of these Banns Peals is remembered at Alkborough, Allington East and West (where they are still occasionally rung), Appleby (only recently given up), Branston, Carlton-le-Moorland, Corringham, Fotherby, Honington, Kirkby-cum-Osgodby, Lea, Leasingham, Nettleton, North Owersby, Owston, Thornton-le-Moor, Thornton Curtis, and at Ulceby, where the peal was rung in the afternoon of the third, and sometimes of the second day of publication.

At North Kelsey, where a peal was formerly rung on Sunday after the publication of Banns, the bells are now always rung on the Monday.

At Barnoldby-le-Beck, Lea, and other places the ringing was, and is, called giving the couple their "spurring" or "sporrings," from the old Danish the "sporge" or asking; at Denton, Swayfield, and North Witham, the ringing is called "spurs."

There is another custom followed at Claxby and other parishes in that neighbourhood in connection with the publication of Banns: after the third asking the clerk says "God speed them well;" until recently the custom was followed at Springthorpe; in a neighbouring parish to that,

where it still lingers, the Vicar published his own banns, whereupon the clerk turned round and said "God speed *you* well Sir!"*.

Wedding Peals are, of course, usual in almost every parish in the county: even in some of those which possess only one bell an attempt is made on such occasions to be hilarious: at Stroxton, where, until recently, there was only a single bell, it was customary on the occasion of a wedding for three men to beat a kind of peal on the bell with hammers which was called "Three-bell-peal." It is said to have been last done there on the occasion of the marriage, in the year 1814, of a man only lately deceased. The old bell still bears the marks of that performance.

At Addlethorpe a peal is always rung immediately after the wedding of a ringer; at Hawerby the two bells are chimed after a wedding; and at Searby the bells are rung for ten minutes.

At Donington, and doubtless at other places, it is customary to ring the bells before and after Divine Service on the first Sunday after the return of the newly married couple, and of their attendance at Church.

The 5th bell at Spalding is called

The Wedding-Bell, because it is used to call the Priest to the church as soon as the wedding party arrives.

The Wedding-peal is referred to on several bells in Lincolnshire: for example on Hogsthorpe 2nd bell we read:—

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* *Notes and Queries*, 5th S. xii. 125, 518.

When Female Virtue weds with manly worth
We catch the rapture and we spread it forth.

and on the 5th at Brant Broughton :—

In Wedlock's band all ye who join
With hands your hearts unite,
So shall our Tunefull Tongues combine
To laud the nuptial rite.

THE BRIDE'S PEAL. In days when "wedding trips" were unusual, if not almost unknown, amongst the villagers of Lincolnshire, it was, in some parishes, customary to ring a peal on the morning after the wedding; that custom has nearly died out, but at Kirkby-cum-Osgodby, and at Mumby it was recently the custom to ring early on that morning to call up the bride and bridegroom; such is now the case, on rare occasions, at Scotter; at Fotherby, too, a peal used to be rung at seven o'clock on that morning called "Ringing them up." At Hogsthorpe the bells are generally rung the day after a wedding, and such a compliment has been known at Thornton-le-Moor.

MAY-DAY PEALS were rung at All Saints', Stamford, in 1707, as the Churchwardens' Accounts show :—

1707. Expended on the Ringers on May Day 0 5 0

and it is worth noting that on the second ladder leading to the bells at Castle Bytham are cut the words :—

THIS ∘ WARE
THE ∘ MAY 1660
POVL

Dole Meadow Bell. A bell so called was formerly rung annually at Carlton-le-Moorland to summon the people to the church gates to bid for the yearly occupation of a meadow, containing about three and a half acres of land, left by a benefactor to the poor of the parish, to be let at the ringing of a bell. The bidding now goes on at the school. A similar occurrence known as

The Letting of the Lanes formerly took place in the church porch at Winterton on May Day, for which a peal used to be rung: when the letting of the lanes ceased in the church porch, the bells were still jangled by anyone who liked, but since the ropes of the bells have been brought down to the floor, and the tower arch opened, that bad practice has ceased.

The Apprentice Bell. At Waddington the tenor bell is rung for a few minutes when an apprentice is out of his time.

Fair and Market Peals. At Epworth peals are rung for an hour on the first Wednesday after May Day introductory to Epworth Fair on the following day; and at Louth it was, for many years, the custom to ring on the evening before November Fair-day.

At Scotton the bells are rung on Tuesday evenings from seven to eight o'clock from November to the end of the year, "to guide the people coming from Gainsborough market across Scotton Common."

At Kirton-in-Lindsey a bell, sometimes called the Market-bell, but more generally known as the "Winter Ringing," was, for many years previous to the Inclosure in

1801, and is still, rung at seven o'clock in the evening during the months of November, December, and January, on Tuesday to guide travellers from Gainsborough market, on Thursday from Brigg market, and on Saturday from Kirton market. This continued until 1858, when, upon the appointment of a new Vicar, the night ringing was changed to Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, to suit his convenience. Those nights, of course, meant nothing. With some difficulty the Vicar was brought to see why other nights had originally been chosen, and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday night ringing was restored, and still continues.

The Mayors of Boston and Grantham are generally welcomed by a merry peal on the day of their election.

Election Peals, though now happily seldom heard, are of respectable antiquity. The Churchwardens of Kirton-in-Lindsey charge in their Accounts:—

> 1625. It. to Ringers when the knyghts of the shire were chosen ..... xij*d.*

Birthday Peals are rung at Belton on the birthdays of the Earl and Countess Brownlow: at Langton-by-Partney the bells are rung on the Rector's birthday: a similar compliment was paid to the Rector of Great Ponton (the Rev. Canon Brooks) on the 31st of October, 1879, he having then attained his ninetieth year.

Call Bells. There is a small modern bell at Fleet so called; it is used to call the ringers together. The 4th bell at Welton is so used, and a single bell sounded for five

minutes before each Service at Gainsborough is known by the name of the Call Bell.

THE OVEN BELL. The Mill and the Oven of the Lord of the Manor were formerly found in very many parishes: to them the tenants of the Manor were expected to resort to grind their corn and to bake their bread. In some parishes a bell was rung, called the Oven bell, to give warning that the Manor Oven was heated and ready for use. There is now only one trace of this custom in Lincolnshire: at Welton there is a tradition of the Oven bell having been rung there in past times: at Cranwell (as at Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire) notice was given by a man parading the streets and blowing a horn.

STORM OR TEMPEST PEALS. As is well known the sound of church bells was formerly supposed not only to drive away or restrain the power of evil spirits, but also to ward off thunder and to calm storms and tempests. It is said that there was a special endowment to old S. Paul's "for ringing the hallowed belle in great tempestes and lighteninges;"* and that whenever it thundered and lightened it was customary at Malmesbury Abbey to ring S. Adhelm's bell.†

Wynkyn de Worde in the *Golden Legend* wrote of the power of bells to cause the "feinds and wicked spirytes" to be abashed and flee "and cease of the movynge of tempeste."

Whitgift refers to this belief in his *Defence*, wherein he

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* *Church Bells of Winchester*, p. 7. † *English Folk Lore*, p. 263.

writes of bells as a sign of evil when they were rung "to stay storms and tempests," but were then a sign of good being rung "to sermons and other godly actions." *

Latimer too remarked upon this supposed power in the sound of Bells in one of his Sermons preached in Lincolnshire in 1553:—

> "Ye know, when there was a storm or a fearful weather, then we rang the holy bells: they were they that must make all things well: they must drive away the devil! But, I tell you, if the holy bells would serve against the devil, or that he might be put away through their sound, no doubt we would soon banish him out of all England. For I think if all the bells in England should be rung together at a certain hour, I think there would be almost no place but some bells might be heard there: and so the devil should have no abiding place in England, if ringing of bells would serve: but it is not that will serve against the devil."†

The custom is referred to in the ancient Accounts of the Churchwardens of Spalding:—

> 1519. Itm̃ p^d for ryngyng when the Tempest was ..... iij*d.*

There is an inscription of a much later date (1705) on the 3rd bell at Lois Weedon, Northamptonshire, which appears to point to this belief:—

> Defunctos ploro: cœlvm reddoque serenvm.

Call for Easter Dues. The 2nd bell at Horncastle is tolled immediately after morning service on Easter

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* *Parker Society*, II. 68. † *Sermons of Bishop Latimer* (Parker Society), p. 498.

Monday and on Easter Tuesday, to give notice of the Collection of Easter Dues.

School-Bell. The 3rd bell at Horncastle is rung every morning at 8.45 to call the scholars of the Grammar-school to their duties. The inscription on the 2nd bell at Fishtoft points to its use as a School Bell.

The Restoration of Charles the Second is commemorated by merry peals at Benington, Swineshead, and occasionally, at Louth.

Ringing on that day is known formerly to have been the custom at Althorpe, Corringham, Haxey (where the anniversary was called "Oak-apple Day"), Horncastle, Owston, and at Sutterton, where the Churchwardens' Accounts have entries of payments to the ringers on the 29th of May for many years. So, too, at S. Mary's, Stamford, the Churchwardens charged in

1709. P^d^ Richard Hambleton for ale for the Ringers on ye 29 May 00 06 00

and at All Saints', Stamford:—

1712. May 29 paid to the Ringers on King Charles Restauration 00 05 00

Harvest Bell. In some parishes it was formerly the custom to ring a bell early in the morning, during the Harvest season, to call the reapers to their work. Such was the case at Barrow-on-Humber as we learn from a manuscript copy of the "*Office and Duty of the Parish Clark*" there, dated 1713:—

> Item He is to ring a Bell every working day morning at Break of the day and Continue the ringing thereof until All Saints and also to ring a Bell every evening about the sunseting until harvist be fully ended; which Bells are to begin to ring from the begining of harvist.

From an old Survey or "Terrar" preserved among the Church papers we further learn :—

> "The Clarke Receiveth from every Cottager at Easter three pence and from every Husbandman for every Plough Land Eight pence, and for Ringing the Day Bell and Night Bell in Harvest two pecks of wheat . . . "

The Gleaning-bell. In many parishes a Gleaning-bell is rung during harvest in the morning, and sometimes both in the morning and at evening, giving warning when gleaning may commence, and when it must close for the day. This is done in order that all—old and feeble, as well as young and active—may have a fair start. Such a bell is rung at eight o'clock in the morning, and again at six o'clock in the evening, at Bassingham, Castle Bytham, Coleby, Colsterworth, Corby, Foston, Horbling, Langtoft, Swinstead, and Wilsford.

At Morton and at Rippingale the bell is rung at 8 a.m. and at 5 p.m.; at Bourne it is rung at 8 a.m. and at 7 p.m.; at Billingborough and at Folkingham a bell is rung at six o'clock in the evening; at Market Deeping at seven o'clock in the morning; at Hacconby, Norton Disney, and at Navenby, the Gleaning-bell is rung, at the last-named place the school-bell being used.

The Gleaning-bell is remembered, but not now rung, at

Aslackby, Baston, Burton Coggles, Carlton-le-Moorland, Croyland, Gunby S. Nicolas, Hale Magna, Helpringham, Heckington, Honington, Leasingham, Quadring, Saxby All Saints, Scredington, Stainby, Swaton, Welby, Wellingore, South Witham, and at West Deeping; at the last-named place the gleaners paid twopence each; when they declined to pay the ringing ceased.

At Louth there was formerly a bell rung in connection with

THE "GATHERUMS," a piece of ground so called in the neighbourhood of Aswell, which in former times was cultivated for the benefit of the poor: when the "pescods" were ripe a church bell was rung which gave warning to the poor that the time had arrived when they might gather them: hence (it is said) *gather'em* or "*gatherum*." The church books had the following, and similar, entries relating to that custom:—

> 1556. Item for Knyllyng the bell in harvest for gatheringe of the pescods ..... iiij*d*.*

BOON-DAYS' RINGING. In the same church books of Louth is the following entry:—

> 1589. To ye keper of ye clock & chymes for y^t^ service & for ringeng of ye day bell & for ringeng of ye curfeu & for ringeng at ye boundays & in peas tyme & for kepeng cleane of ye leades for iij of ye first quarters ..... xxxj*s*. vj*d*.

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* *Notitiæ Ludæ*, 215.

The "boundays" or boondays were the days on which occupiers of land having horses and carts were bound to give work gratis, for the public good, towards the repair of the roads.

On Mumping Day, as S. Thomas' day is called there, and in many other places, the tenor bell was, until the year 1877, rung at Wragby to summon the poor to receive a dole of bread and meat provided by the Churchwardens.

The Execution Bell: in some places a bell was formerly tolled as the criminal passed on his way to be hanged, calling on the people to pray for one passing from life: such a bell was tolled at S. Helen's, Worcester, S. Sepulchre's, London, and formerly at Spalding Priory in this county. "The Turris" there was built in 1230: a hundred years later the Prior, Walter Halton, erected a lofty tower over that building wherein hung a large bell which was tolled at executions, and on other solemn occasions.*

Haxey Hood and The King of the Boggans. At Haxey there is an annual festival called "Haxey Hood" held on the 6th of January or on the following Monday if that day fall on a Sunday. It is said to have originated when the Mowbray family possessed a castle in the adjoining parish of Owston, the site of which is still traceable

* Minutes of *Spalding Gentlemen's Society*, III. 110. Canon Moore writes to me, "The power of 'Pit and Gallows' was taken away at the Dissolution, but I find by the Parish Register felons were executed here after that. The last execution took place in the Market Place in 1742, and the man was hung in irons on a gibbet about one mile out of the town. I recollect the gibbet standing."

near to the church. The tradition is that they also had a country house in a part of Haxey parish still known by the name of "the Park," and that on one Epiphany Lady Mowbray was going to church from the Park, when a sudden gust of wind carried off her hood which was chased across the country by a party of rustics, who at length captured and restored it to her Ladyship. She appears to have been so much amused with the incident that she instituted an annual observance of the event upon the hill where it had occurred. It is also said that she left six and a half acres of land as a reward to the thirteen men who were to conduct the affair. No record, however, can now be found of the bequest, nor can the land be traced.

The festival, as now observed, is of a rather disreputable character, and has of late years lost much of its popularity. It is now observed as follows :—

On the sixth of January at about 2 p.m. twelve men called "Boggans" dressed in scarlet jackets, headed by another also in a scarlet jacket but further decorated with rags and ribbons, and who is called "King of the Boggans," march up the village to the base of an ancient cross near the church. The King of the Boggans bears "The Hood" which is a roll of leather about two feet long, and as thick as a man's arm. The King is then hoisted up on to the top of the ancient stone, and there, in a rigmarole speech invites the mob to follow him to the top of the hill, and enjoy the sport of chasing the hood. Away they all go. The King of the Boggans takes his stand on the appointed spot, and the twelve Boggans are posted at intervals, five or

six hundred yards away. The King then throws up the Hood, which is caught by one of the mob, who makes off with it at the top of his speed across the country: he throws it on ahead of him, it is caught by another and so on, the Boggans all the time intercepting, if possible, the Hood, and when a Boggan gets hold of it he quietly and unmolested carries it back to the King, who throws it again amongst the people. This continues until the approach of darkness when the festival for that day is ended. The next day the Boggans and their King go round soliciting contributions which they spend in drink. There is a general holiday in the parish on "Hood Day," and the inhabitants are visited by their relatives and friends from all parts of the country. The ringers ring at intervals during the day, but without special payment.*

Racing Peals were formerly rung—it is sad to say—in honour of favourite horses or dogs winning races: although a thing of the past, such ringing is remembered at Winterton, and doubtless at other places.

Fire-bell. A special bell is sometimes rung as an alarm in case of fire: the treble is so rung at Barkston, Hale Magna, and at Thornton-le-Moor, the 3rd at Walton, and one of the bells at Wragby.

The 1st and 2nd bells are rung at Caythorpe. At Lincoln (S. Peter-at-Arches) the "Ting-tang" is commonly called the Fire-bell; and at Horncastle that small bell is

* Saunders (Vol. II. 214) gives an account of this festival, which is altered in its observance since he wrote.

rung "as an alarm bell, day or night, in case of Fire or other great calamity."

In case of Fire the treble and the tenor are rung at Caistor, Market Rasen, Swineshead, and at Louth: at the latter place in accordance with a resolution of the Vestry passed on the 17th of November, 1800:—

> That in case of any further alarm of Fire two Bells shall be rung instead of one.*

At Sutterton the Priest's bell and the tenor are rung together. At Swaton they jangle the bells in case of fire. The bells at Stamford were formerly sounded in the same way: on the occasion of a fire there, on the 2nd October, 1803, "A strange ringing of bells gave the alarm, and the drums of the third Lincoln Militia beat to arms."† Bishop Hall refers to the custom when he says "so when we would signify that the town is on fire we ring confusedly."‡

At Sleaford a small bell (14 inches in diameter, without inscription or date) hangs in a canopied niche on the west front of the south aisle of the church: this bell which may possibly have formerly belonged to a chapel of one of the Guilds, is now known as the Fire-bell. The chain and wire from this bell are carried over pulleys, and the end is padlocked to the external wall of the church: the Local Board of Health has given instructions (1879) that the bell and its fittings are to be put into good order, and so it is presumed that it will be again used in case of fire.

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* *Vestry Book.* † *Stamford Mercury*, 7th October, 1803. ‡ *Occasional Meditations*, LXXX.

Gunpowder Plot. The discovery of this Plot is still commemorated by the ringing of merry peals at Benington, Branston, Claypole, Elsham, Heydour, Springthorpe, Swineshead, and at Wragby. The bells are clashed or "fired" at Caythorpe, Walcot, and at Halton-Holgate, where they call it "shooting the bells;" also at Great Ponton and at Rippingale, at both of which places the people call it "shooting old Guy."

Peals on this day are remembered, but not now rung, at Althorpe, Carlton-le-Moorland, Corby (where they used to "shoot" the bells), Corringham, Horncastle, Osbournby, Owston, and at Weston S. Mary.

At Sibsey the Churchwardens' Accounts for 1699 have:—

Given the Ringers on 5th Novr ..... 0 . 10 . 0

The same item occurs frequently until recent times, the amount given varying from 10*s.* to 5*s.*, and there was sometimes a supper.

At Sutterton the ringers had a dinner and drink:—

1803. Nov. 5. Paid Ringers dinner & drink .....£2 . 12 . 0

and so for many subsequent years.

Gunpowder Plot, discovered in 1605, was ordered by Parliament, in 1606, to be observed. We have an early mention of the commemoration in the Accounts of the Churchwardens of S. John Baptist, Stamford:—

1608-9. Itm̃ paid for Rynging the Vth of November..... vj*d.*

This payment is continued even during the Commonwealth, for instance :—

1652-3. given to ye Ringers for ringing on Nov. 5th ..... 0 . 1 . 4

In the Book of the Churchwardens of S. Mary's, Stamford, is the following order respecting the ringing on this day :—

Ap. 24, 1701. Memorandum that the Churchwardens is onely to give six shillings for Ringing on the fifth of November.

and that payment appears in subsequent years.

We find in the Churchwardens' Accounts of Kirton-in-Lindsey the following early entry :—

1623. It' for ringinge the fift day of November ..... xij*d.*

and so in subsequent years.

And at Leverton the Churchwardens charge :—

1610. Itm̃ pd for bread & drinke for the ringners the fifte of November ..... ij*s.* ij*d.*

This Anniversary is referred to on two bells in this County in very different terms: the 2nd bell at Owmby, dated 1687, exclaims :—

Let vs remember the 5 of November.

Whilst the 1st at Witham-on-the-Hill is very strong in the opposite direction :—

'Twas not to prosper pride or hate
William Augustus Johnson gave me;
But peace and joy to celebrate,
And call to prayer to heav'n to save ye :

Then keep the terms and e'er remember
May 29th ye must not ring:
Nor yet the 5th of each November
Nor on the crowning of a King.

This day was formerly observed at Lincoln by a Bull baiting which commenced at 11 o'clock in the morning: the bull-ring was on the Castle hill.

THE MARKET-BELL, which was formerly heard in many market towns has only one representative in Lincolnshire.

At Sleaford there is a small bell (thirteen and a half inches in diameter, without inscription or date) hanging in the south light of the lowest west spire light of the church: it is known as

THE BUTTER-BELL. There is a traditional recollection of it having been rung at 12 o'clock on the morning of market day, about sixty years ago, to announce to the Sleaford people that the sale of butter was about to commence: the inhabitants had then the privilege of securing all they required before purchasers from a distance were allowed to buy.

This little bell had been lost sight of for many years previous to the bells being examined for the purposes of this volume. A new rope was then supplied to it by two of my kind correspondents, and the Vicar's son now (1879) rings it from 12 o'clock to 12.15 every market day in imitation of the ancient use. It was first rung by him on the 14th of April, 1879, its unaccustomed sound causing a crowd to assemble, and to offer many conjectures as to its source, and the cause and object of the ringing.

C. Knight has some amusing remarks on the Market-bell. He says:—"Is that rung now? I fear not. There was something deeply impressive in that bell. It spoke loudly of the majesty of the law, which then aspired to regulate some domestic, as well as all foreign, commerce. The stalls were duly set; the butchers had hung up their joints; the farmer's wife had spread her fowls and her butter upon a white cloth; onions and apples stood temptingly on the pavement side, but not an atom could be sold till the market bell had rung. . . . . It was unlawful even to handle a goose till the bell said 'You may bargain.' There was a board exhibited which told of heavy penalties if early housewives were disobedient to the mandate of that bell, and dared to chaffer before other housewives were awake."*

At Louth there was a bell on the summit of the Guildhall, which formerly stood in the Market Place, and which may have been used as a Market-bell, or as a Common bell.†

At Stamford the signal for the commencement of the Corn Market was, in the reign of Edward the Fourth, the ringing of the Undernone or Undern bell.‡ The Town Book, belonging to the Corporation, has the following Order passed in 1478-9:—

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* *Once upon a Time*, p. 480.

† *Notitiæ Ludæ*, p. 204.

‡ Sir H. Nicolas, in his *Chronology of History* (p. 195), says, "Undern, a word often used in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries for the third hour of the day, or 9 a.m."

"It is ordeyned that no person opyn ther sack or set ther corn to sale afore the hour of ten of the bell or els the undernone bell be rongyn."*

This bell, or a successor, became known subsequently as the Market-bell. The Records of the Corporation contain the following Resolution passed in the year 1777:—

Resolved that the Market-Bell be given to the Parish to be recast in order to be added as an additional bell to the Quarters in the church.

This bell may have hung at the old Market House pulled down about the year 1822.

The statutes against forestalling, &c., being repealed in 7th and 8th Victoria, the Market-bell lost its use and its power.

Forestalling was provided against at Barton-on-Humber by a law which prohibited "any person purchasing for resale at a profit goods brought into the haven, until after the expiration of three days from the bellman's announcing the arrival of the cargo; during these three days the inhabitants had the opportunity of buying the goods at the wholesale price."† Measures were also taken at Great Grimsby to prevent forestalling.‡

The Mote or Common Bell. A bell was ordered by Edward the Confessor to be sounded in cases of danger to convene the people. This was the same as the alarm bell which we read as being rung by order of John to summon the citizens of London when he wished to involve

* Peck's *Desiderata Curiosa*, Lib. vi. p. 36, Tom. i. † Ball's *Barton*, Part ii. 3.
‡ See *Architectural Socs. Reports and Papers*, xiv. 212.

them in certain illegal acts during the absence of Richard I. (1193) in the Holy-land. Indeed the use of a bell as a summons to public meeting, or as an alarm in cases of danger, appears to have been very general. A bell for such a purpose was used at Newcastle-on-Tyne where it was called the "Common Bell." Nottingham too, had its "Common Bell" in 1315, and at S. Chad's, Stafford, was a "grette bell which is accustomed to call the parishioners to geather to all things pertening to the towne of Stafforde."

The 7th bell at S. Mary's, Stamford, is the "Common Bell" of that municipality. It was tolled to call the members of the Hall together to attend Mr. Alderman to church from the reign of Elizabeth down to recent times. It is frequently referred to in the Municipal Records. Thus:—

> "1614. April 24. At this hall the cõmon bell was toled to the order to call the townsmen togeather that they there might be p'suaded to adventure some money according to the Counselles letters into Virginia, but beinge not thought fitt by the greater p'te of the Company there assembled to adventure of any man's p'vate purse nothinge was done."

It was subsequently determined that "iij^{li} be laid downe" from the town stock "and adventured in the lotterye for Virginia."

> "1622 Oct. 9. At this hall it is further agreed uppon by the said assembly that uppon all occasions Mr Alderman hath [to come] to the cõmon hall the treable bell of St. Maries church shall be tolled to the ende both the Companies, as well the Comburgesses as the Capitall burgesses, may come to Mr Alderman & attende on him to & from the hall for the glory & wor^{p} of the towne."

It would appear that the "Common Bell" was, at that time, cracked or not useable, and so the treble was used in its stead, for on

"Jany. 2. 1624-5 it was agreed uppon by the Alderman, Comburgesses and Capitall burgesses . . . . that five pounds shall be given freely out of the towne stocke for and towards the castinge of the Cõmon bell beinge now in the steeple of St. Maries in Stamford aforesaid (p'vided allwayes nev^r the lesse that it be made tuneable to the other five bells in the steeple) and that there be an acte made and confirmed accordinge to lawe by the advise of the towne to make it appeare that the said bell belongeth to the said towne and not to the p'ish. And also that there shall be a subscription made about the said bell to import the same to belong to the towne."*

The bell thus referred to is the present Common Bell —the 7th of the ring: in addition to the pious prayer "Jesvs spede vs," and the name of the founder "Tobie Norris cast me 1626," it bears the inscription, in reference to its use:—

STANFORDIENSIBVS INSERVIENS IPSA CONTEROR

Which seems to mean:—

I am myself worn out [or bruised] while serving for the men of Stamford.

In the Mayor and Chamberlains' Accounts are found occasional references to this bell, such as:—

1736. To Edw. Lyon for mending the Corporation Bell in St. Mary's Church ..... 00 . 06 . 00

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* Kindly extracted for me by Mr. Justin Simpson.

1789. Edw. Arnold Bellfounder for hanging the Corporation Bell ..... 6 . 6 . 0

This bell is still tolled for a quarter of an hour at Quarter Sessions to summon the jury and others.

An ancient Mote-bell hangs in a wooden frame, protected from the weather, on the top of the roof of the Guildhall, Lincoln. It is twenty and a half inches in diameter, has a rope and wheel, and is a very interesting bell, because its inscription not only tells of its use, but also gives its date thus:—

CVM QVIS CAMPANAM RE-
SERET SACCVM BONVS
AVDIT ET CVRIAM PLA-
NAM FORE CVM SCITOTE
REPLAVDIT
TEMPORE VVILLI BEELE
MAIORIS LINCOLNIE CIV-
ITATIS ▽

This inscription shows that the bell (cast in the time of William Beele, Mayor—that is in 1371) was rung at the opening, and again at the close of the court: the first portion reads literally (according to a reading kindly given to me by the Rev. J. T. Fowler):—

When any good man hears the bell let him open the bag, and know ye the hall to be clear when it re-rings.

The Court being a law Court, the reference is to the bag in

which those interested in the case or cases being about to be tried carried their papers in the same way still common with lawyers. Caxton, in the second edition of his translation of *The Game and Playe of the Chesse* (1480), refers to these bags in an interpolation of his own in the chapter descriptive of the third pawn, called a notary, or "advocate publique," thus:—"I suppose that in alle Cristendom are not so many pletars, attorneys and men of the lawe as ben in Engelond onely, for yf they were nombered alle that longe to the Courtes of the Chaunserye, Kynge's Bench, Comyn place, Cheker, ressayt and helle, *and the bagge berars* of the same, it should amount to a grete multitude . ."

The inscription on this curious little bell has been freely rendered into English verse thus:—

When first a good man hears the bell
  Let him his bag with speed untie;
When next it rings, he'll know full well
  The Hall is cleared, and homeward hie.

or

Let the honest burgher who hears me ring
  Produce his bag and untie the string;
And when the clapper again is heard
  Be sure the Court is about to be cleared.

It is now only rung to give warning of a meeting of the Council. In smaller places a church bell was frequently, and is still sometimes, used (as we shall see presently) to summon to a Town or Parish meeting.

The Vestry Bell. A bell (the treble or one of the

small bells of the ring), as a summons to attend a Vestry, is still rung at

Addlethorpe, West Allington, Althorpe, Alvingham, Ancaster, Appleby, Asterby, Bardney, Barnoldby-le-Beck, Baston (for both Vestry and Town meetings), Belton near Grantham, Bicker, Billinghay, Blyton, Bolingbrooke, Bonby, Branston, Bratoft, Broughton, Butterwick, Burgh, Caenby, Carlton Scroop, Coleby, Corby, West Deeping, Digby, Doddington Dry, Donington, Dunholme, Dunsby, South Elkington, Ewerby, South Ferriby, Frampton, Friesthorpe, Frieston, Gosberton, Gretford, Gunby S. Nicolas, Hareby, Harlaxton, Hale Magna, Heckington, Hogsthorpe, Horncastle, Ingoldsby, Irby-on-Humber, Laceby, Laughton, Langtoft, Leake, Lincoln (S. Botolph and S. Peter-at-Gowts), Ludborough, Mareham-le-Fen, Mareham-on-the-Hill, Minting, Moulton, Mumby, Nettleton, Normanton, Orby, Osbournby, Owmby (for Vestry and Town Meetings), East Pinchbeck, Potterhanworth, Quadring, Middle Rasen, Rippingale, Saltfleetby S. Clement, Scotton, Searby, Skellingthorpe, Skirbeck, Spilsby, Springthorpe, Stainby, Stickney, East Stockwith, Stow (formerly for Town also), Stragglethorpe, Surfleet, Swinderby, Thornton-le-Moor, Thorpe-on-the-Hill, Timberland, High Toynton, Walcot, Westborough, Whaplode, Silk Willoughby, South Willingham, Winteringham, and at Wyberton.

A larger bell is rung at

Aslackby (tenor), Benington (5th), Caistor (3rd), Caythorpe (7th), Coningsby (4th), Elsham (tenor), Evedon (tenor), Fulbeck (4th), Grantham (6th), West Halton (tenor for Town and Vestry meetings), Hundleby (tenor), Leasingham (3rd), Leverton (3rd), Lincoln, S. Peter-at-Arches (5th), Market Rasen (5th), Ruskington (tenor), Sibsey (4th), Sleaford (7th), Swineshead (7th), Waltham (tenor), and at Washingborough (5th).

At Epworth two or three bells are chimed: at Gedney

the treble bell is rung for important parish meetings, the School bell for minor meetings; and at Waddington a bell is rung twice for parish meetings.

At Folkingham the 3rd bell should be rung, but the office of bellringer being performed by a woman (Mrs. Armstrong), she is allowed to ring the treble as being lighter.

At Louth the 3rd bell is tolled thirty tolls, thrice, a quarter of an hour before the time for a Vestry meeting.

There is an express order for the ringing of a summons to the Vestry meeting in the Parish Books of All Saints', Stamford:—

> "1652. April the 19. It is ordered by the parishioners that noe succeedinge Churchwards shall disburst above 10*s.* for any repaires to the leades or windows or Bells but they shall cause a bell to be tolled and give warninge that the parishioners may meete together to agree about the said worke."*

The ringing of the Vestry bell is remembered at Boston, Corringham, Hibaldstow, and at Weston S. Mary.

Dykes and Drains Jury-bell. At Claypole the 3rd bell is rung annually in November to summon the Parish Jury to view the Dykes, Drains, &c., &c.: and at Epworth, a bell is rung at Eleven o'clock in the morning of the last Monday in October to summon "the Isle of Axholme Common Drainage Meeting."

The Bull-running Bell. Bull Running took place at Stamford from time immemorial annually on the 13th of November. On the morning of that day the "Common

* Kindly extracted for me by Mr. Justin Simpson.

Bell" there was tolled at a quarter before eleven o'clock to give warning for the thoroughfares to be cleared of infirm persons and children. At eleven o'clock the bull was turned into a street, and then the sport began, the great object being to "bridge the bull," that is, by main force to tumble him over the bridge which spans the Welland into the river beneath. This annual Bull-running was continued, notwithstanding many unsuccessful attempts made to stop it, until the year 1840, when it (and so the ringing of the Common-Bell on that occasion) was finally given up.* Fuller tells that Lincoln was noted as producing superior dogs for Bull baiting, which was a very popular sport at Great Grimsby and elsewhere.

Loyal Peals. Upon all occasions calling for an expression of loyalty such as the anniversaries of the Queen's birthday, accession, and coronation, the bells are rung in many parishes. It has long been our custom to express our loyalty by merry peals. In past times, when we were unhappily frequently at war with our neighbours, and when our victories by land or by sea called forth bursts of patriotic thankfulness and exultation from Englishmen, their feelings found expression in no way more strongly than in the joyous and jubilant ringing of our glorious and spirit-stirring bells. Churchwardens' accounts teem with payments for such, especially during the first few years of the present century.

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* See a very amusing account of the attempts to put down the Stamford Bull-running in Chambers' *Book of Days*, II. 575.

No doubt Church Bells have been in past years rung upon other and most improper occasions. Happily they are now looked upon as part of the ornaments, or requisite furniture, of a church, and set apart with it to be used for holy and sacred purposes, and upon occasions, when by their exhilarating sounds, they can add to the joyous thankfulness and innocent pleasure of all within reach of their sound. Of their occasional perverted use within the memory of many living, it will be well not to speak further, but rather to rejoice that a better feeling, and better customs, now prevail.

In my former Books on Church Bells I have closed this portion of the Work with a few words on the necessity of keeping the bells and their surroundings in good repair and in decent order; and on the best mode of restoring the ringers to their proper position amongst the officers of the church. I am glad to know that with regard to the ringers a great improvement has taken place during the past few years. The establishment of Ringers' Guilds in many counties—Lincolnshire being one—presided over by the clergy, has much improved the moral standard of the ringers, whilst the presence of many a parson, rope in hand, in the ringing chamber, has equally improved the tone in the belfry.

It may be well to repeat that "the ringers' chamber, and the access to it, ought to be made as easy and comfortable as possible, and it should be furnished with proper light, and with coat and hat pegs. The windows ought to be glazed, for the tower, without this precaution, is a bitter

place for men who have been engaged in an exercise which has kept them warm for an hour or two; and the little light-holes by which the circular staircase to the belfry is lighted may well be closed with a piece of glass."*

Mr. Haweis has in one of his Books some remarks on the bells themselves, from which a hint or two may well be taken. He says that every belfry should have a care-taker, called by him "the Bellstoker," who "should keep every rivet in its place; the wheels and beams should all be varnished or painted regularly. I have visited many belfries at home and abroad, but never have I seen a bit of paint or varnish in one yet. The shutters should be kept from swinging, with their flanges sloping downwards, so as to keep the wet from driving in, whilst allowing the sound to float freely out and down upon the town: . . . . . An eye for the belfry is a thing to be cultivated. The belfry should look like a fine engine-room in a first-rate factory. It should be a pleasure as well as an instructive lesson to go into it. When all was in motion everything should be so neatly fitted and thoroughly oiled that we should hear no sound save only the melodious booming of the bells themselves. At present, when the bells are rung, the belfry appears to go into several violent convulsions, corresponding, too often, to the efforts of the poor ringers below. At last the wheel is induced to move enough for the clapper to hit the bell an indefinite kind of bang—an arduous operation which may or may not be repeated in some kind of

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* *Bells and Belfries*, by the Rev. G. A. Poole, R.D.

rhythm according as the ringer may or may not succeed in hitting it off with the eccentric machinery above . . . ."*

The example of the Churchwardens of Barrow-on-Humber in 1713 may well be followed: the Parish Clerk at that time was told

> "He must be Carefull that no Boys or Idle persons Jangle the Bells or abuse the Church or the Windows; he is to grease or oil the Bells, and to keep them in good order; and if they be defected in any thing he shall let the Church Wardens know that they may be mended in convenient time." He was also to continue in the "Bellhouse" all the time of ringing and to be carful that nothing there suffered abuse or damage. If any person wilfully or carelessly overturned a bell the Clerk might demand of him one shilling for the offence which if he refused to pay the Clerk might sue for it in the Court, and be, by the parishioners, "indamnified therein."†

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* *Music and Morals*, 460.

† "*The Office and Duty of the Parish Clerk of Barrow;*" a MS. preserved in the Church Chest there.

Ancient Bell-tile found at Repton, Derbyshire.

LATIN INSCRIPTIONS

ON

CHURCH BELLS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

[WITH TRANSLATIONS.*]

ANTONIVS MONET VT CAMPANA BENE SONET.
[*Anthony advises that the bell may sound well.*]

AVE MARIA.
[*Hail Mary.*]

AVE MARIA GRACIA PLENA.
[*Hail Mary, full of Grace.*]

BEATVS EST POPVLVS QVI EXAVDIT CLANGOREM.
[*Happy is the people that hears the sound.*]

BEATVS VIR QVI NON ABIIT.
[*Blessed is the man who hath not gone* (Ps. 1. 1).]

CAMPANA SANCTE TRINITATIS ET OMNIVM SANCTORVM.
[*The Bell of the Holy Trinity and All Saints.*]

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* For these I am indebted to the kindness of a friend.

CAMPANA AVDITE VOCO VOS AD SACRA VENITE.
[*Hear the Bell: I call you: Come to Sacred things* (*i.e.* to Church).]

CATERINA PIA PROTEGAS NOS A NECE DVRA.
[*O Kind Catharine! Protect us from cruel death.*]

CELORVM XTE PLACEAT TIBI REX SONVS ISTE.
[*O Christ the King of Heaven, may this sound be pleasing to Thee.*]

CONCORDIA SIT VOBISCVM.
[*Concord be with you.*]

CVM SONO SI NON VIS VENIRE
NVNQVAM AD PRECES CVPIES IRE.
[*If you be unwilling to come when I call*
To prayers you'll not wish to go at all.]

CVM VOCO AD TEMPLUM VENITE.
[*When I call come to Church.*]

CVM VOCO VENITE.
[*Come when I call.*]

DEFUNCTOS PLANGO VIVOS MONEO.
[*I mourn the dead, I warn the living.*]

DEFUNCTOS PLORO VIVOS VOCO FUNERA CLAUDO.
[*I weep for the dead; I call the living: I close funerals.*]

DIES DIEI ERUCTAT VERBUM.
[*Day unto day uttereth speech.*]

DVLCIS SI[S]TO MELIS VOCOR CAMPANA GABRIELIS.
[*I am of sweet sound; I am called the bell of Gabriel.*]

DVM SPIRAS SPERA.
[*While thou breathest, hope!*]

ECCE ANCILLA DOMINI.
[*Behold the handmaid of the Lord.*]

EGO SVM VOX CLAMANTIS.
[*I am the voice of one crying.*]

ET CLAMOR AD CŒLOS.
[*And sound to heaven.*]

ET NOMEN DICTI GERO SC̄I BN̄DICTI.
[*And I bear the name of him called S. Benedict.*]

EXEAT E BVSTO AVSPICE CHRISTO.
[*May he go forth from the tomb, Christ being his Helper.*]

FIDELES VOCO AD DOMVM DEI.
[*I call the faithful to the House of God.*]

FILI DEI VIVI MISERERE NOBIS.
[*O Son of the Living God, have mercy on us.*]

FLOREAT ECCLESIA ANGLICANA.
[*May the English Church flourish.*]

FRANCISCVS SOVTH EQVES AVRATVS IN DEI HONOREM ME FIERI CVRAVIT.
[*Sir Francis South, Knight, procured me to be made for the honour of God.*]

GABRIELIS EGO CANA VOBIS ORE IVCVNDO NVNC.
[*I Gabriel now sing to you with pleasant voice.*]

GEORGIVS CAMPANA VOS SONAT DULCITER BENE.
[*George. The bell sounds you sweetly well.*]

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO
and
GLORIA IN ALTISSIMIS DEO.
[*Glory to God in the highest.*]

GLORIA PATRI ET FILIO SPIRITUI SANCTO.
[*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.*]

GLORIA SOLI DEO.
[*Glory to God alone.*]

GRATA SIT ARGUTA RESONANS CAMPANULA VOCE.
[*May the little bell be pleasant, sounding with clear tone.*]

HARMONIA NOSTRA EGO SVM SECVNDVS CONCORDIA VOS ESTOTE MILLI [? for NVLLI] SECVNDI.
[*In our harmony I am second; in concord be ye second to none.*]

HEC CAMPANA PIE CAVSA SIT FACTA MARIE.
[*May this bell be piously made for the sake of Mary.*]

HEC CAMPANA SACRA FIAT TRINITATE BEATA.
[*Be this bell sacred to the Holy Trinity.*]

HEC PRO LAVDE PIE RESONAT CAMPANA MARIE.
[*This bell piously resounds for the praise of Mary.*]

HOC NOMEN IHESVS EST AMOR MEVS.
[*This Name Jesus is my love.*]

HONORI DEI ET HVIVSCE VSVI HÆ SUNT CAMPANÆ.
[*These bells are for the honour of God and the use of this (Church or Parish).*]

HVIVS SANCTI PETRI.
There are several similar inscriptions.
[*Saint Peter's bell.*]

IH̄C CAMPANA BEATE MARIE.
[*Jesus. The bell of Blessed Mary.*]

IH'S NAZARENVS REX IVDEORVM FILI DEI MISERERE MEI.
[*Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews, O Son of God have mercy on me.*]

IN AMORE SC̄A MARIA *(sic)*.
[*In love of S. Mary.*]

IN DEI GLORIAM IN ECCLESIÆ COMMODUM.
[*To the glory of God and the good of the Church.*]

IN HON : DEI OPT : MAX : ET COMM : R : T : LOWE IN INS : MADER : OL : ECCL : ANG : FID : PRE[S]B : ET CAP : 1852.
[*In honour of Almighty God and in memory of R. T. Lowe, formerly a faithful priest and chaplain of the English Church in the Island of Madeira.*]

IN HONORE SC̄E ANDRAE.
And several similar inscriptions.
[*In honour of S. Andrew.*]

IN MVLTIS ANNIS RESONET CAMPANA IOHANNIS.
[*For many years may John's bell resound.*]

IN NOĪE IH̄S MARIA.
[*In the name of Jesus. Mary.*]

IN NŌE IH̄U XP̄I OM̄E GENU FLECTĀT CELESTIŪ TER̄STRIŪ T̄ INF̄RORŪ.
[*In the Name of Jesus Christ every knee shall bow, of things in heaven, in earth, and under the earth.*]

INTACTVM SILEO PERCVTE DVLCE CANO.
[*Untouched I am a silent thing*
But strike me and I sweetly ring.]

IN TEMPLO VENERARE DEVM HEN : PENN NOS FVDIT CORNVCASTRI.
[*Worship God in His Temple. Hen. Penn founded us at Horncastle.*]

INTONAT DE CELIS VOX CAMPANA *(sic)* MICHAELIS.
[*The voice of Michael's bell resounds from heaven.*]

ION BAPTIST CAMPANA MANEAT HEC VNDIQVI *(sic)* SANA.
[*John Baptist. May this bell remain sound all round.*]

ISTA CAMPANA SANCTI IOHANNIS EWANGELISTI.
[*This is the bell of S. John the Evangelist.*]

LABOREM SIGNO ET REQVIEM.
[*I give the signal for labour and for rest.*]

LAVDATE ILLVM CYMBALIS SONORIS.
[*Praise Him on the loud cymbals.*]

LAVDO DEVM CONGREGO CLERVM PLEBEM VOCO FVNERA PLANGO.
[*I praise God, I gather the clergy, I call the people, I mourn the dead* (funerals).]

LAVDO DEVM VERVM.
[*I praise the true God.*]

LAVS DEO.
[*Praise to God.*]

LECTUM FUGE DISCUTE SOMNUM.
[*Flee thy bed, banish sleep.*]

MAGISTRO ET DISCIPVLIS SONO.
[*I sound for master and scholars.*]

MARIA MATER DEI EST NOMEN MEVM.
[*Mary Mother of God is my name.*]

MARIA MATER GRACIE.
[*Mary Mother of Grace.*]

MARIA VIRGO ASSUMPTA EST IN CELUM.

[*The Virgin Mary is taken into heaven.*]

ME AVDITO VOS CREDITE DEVM CELITVS CONVOCARE SANCTOS AD ADORANDVM ILLVM IPSVM SOLVM.

[*Hear thou me. Believe that God calls the saints from heaven to adore Himself alone.*]

ME VOCE FRACTA MALE CONCINENTEM PROPRIO SUMTU LIQUEFIERI ET DENUO CONFLARI VOLUIT ÆLFREDUS SHUTTLEWORTH A.S. MDCCCLXXX° VIGILATE ET ORATE NESCITIS ENIM QUANDO TEMPUS SIT.

[*Alfred Shuttleworth had me melted up and cast again at his own expense when I was cracked in tone and out of tune A. S.* 1880. *Watch and pray for ye know not when the time may be.*]

ME PROPRIO SUMTU DENUO CONFLARI FECIT NATHANIEL CLAYTON A.S. MDCCCLXXX° VENIT HORA ET NUNC EST QUANDO MORTUI AUDIENT VOCEM FILII DEI.

[*Nathaniel Clayton had me cast again at his own expense A. S.* 1880. *The hour cometh and now is when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God.*]

MELODIAM ORDIOR.

[*I begin the melody.*]

ME RESONARE IVBET PIETAS MORS GRATA VOLVPTAS.

[*Piety, death, welcome pleasure, (each) bids me resound.*]

MEMENTO MORI.

[*Remember death.*]

MEROREM MESTIS LETIS SIC LETA SONABO.

[*Sadly to the sad, to the joyous joyful, will I sound.*]

MISSI DE CELIS HĒO NOM̄E GABRIELIS.
[*I have the name of Gabriel (who was) sent from heaven.*]

MORTUOS PLANGO MORTUOS VIVENTES MONEO.
[*I mourn the dead, I warn the living dead (i.e.* in trespasses and sins).]

MVLTI VOCATI PAVCI ELECTI.
[*Many called, few chosen.*]

MVSICAM DOCET AMOR.
[*Love teaches music.*]

NOM̄E MARTINI PRESULIS DANT PAROCHIANI.
[*The parishioners give the name of Martin the Bishop.*]

NOM̄E PETRI FERO QUI CLAUIGER EXTAT IN EVO.
[*I bear the name of Peter who remains the bearer of the keys for ever.*]

NOMEN SANCTORUM GERIT HEC CAMPANA PUERORUM.
[*This bell bears the name of the Holy Innocents.* (Lit. Boys).]

NOMEN MAGDALENE CAMPANA GERET MELODIE.
[*This bell shall bear the melodious name of Magdalene.*]

NON CLAMOR SED AMOR CANTAT IN AVRE DEI.
[*Love's voice not noise sings in the ear of God.*]

NON SONO ANNIMABVS MORTVORVM SED AVRIBVS VIVENTIVM.
[*I sound not for the souls of the dead, but for the ears of the living.*]

NON VOX SED VOTVM NON MVSICA CORDVLA SED COR.
[*Not the sound but the vow: not the musical string but the heart.*]

NOS CV̄ PROLE PIA BN̄DICAT VIRGO MARIA.
[*May the Virgin Mary bless us with pious offspring.*]

NOS SUMUS CONSTRUCTI AD LAUDEM DOMINI.
[*We are cast to the glory of God.*]

NOX NOCTI INDICAT SCIENTIAM.
[*Night unto night showeth knowledge.*]

O DEVS ABSQVE PARE FAC NOS TIBI DVLCE SONARE.
[*O God without an equal, make us to sound sweetly to Thee.*]

OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI.
[*Let all be done to the glory of God.*]

OMNIBVS SONO PLACERE.
[*I sound to please all.*]

OMNIS SPIRITVS LAVDET DOMINVM.
[*Let all breath praise the Lord.*]

PAX AVDIENTIBVS ME.
[*Peace to them that hear me.*]

PERCUTE DULCE CANO.
[*Strike me, I sweetly sing.*]

PER GENTEM TRUSTHORPE SIT PETRVS SONANS IN TRVSTHORPE.
[*Through the Trusthorpe folk may Peter be well sounding in Trusthorpe.*]

PERSONET HEC CELIS DULCISSIMA VOX GABRIELIS.
[*May this most sweet sound of Gabriel sound through the heavens.*]

PLEBEM VOCO CONGREGO CLERUM.
[*I call the people; I collect the clergy.*]

PRINCIPIO FINE SONAN[S?] SONVS HIC SIT CATERINE.
[*May this sound of Catharine be sounding in the beginning (and) in the end* (*i.e.* always?).]

POST BELLVM VIGINTI ANNORVM RATÆ PACIS INTER ANNA ANGLORVM REGINA ET LVDOVIC 14 FRANCORVM REGE ANNO PRIMO SALVTIS VERO 1713.

[*In the first year of the peace made between Anne Queen of England and Lewis XIV. King of France after a* 20 *years war, but in the year of our salvation* 1713.]

PRÆSIDIO SEMPER TE CELEBRAI [*sic* but query for CELEBRITER] SONO.

[*Thou being ever my Guard I sound famously* (*?*).]

PURA PUDICA PIA MISERIS MISERERE MARIA.

[*O pure, chaste, kind Mary! have mercy on the miserable.*]

SACRA TRINITATE FIAT HEC CAMPANA BEATA.

[*Be this bell sacred to the Holy Trinity.*]

SANCTE GABRIEL ORA PRO NOBIS.

And several similar inscriptions.

[*Holy Gabriel pray for us.*]

SANCTE PARENS MEA VIS MEA SOLA POTENTIA ADESTO.

[*O Holy Parent, my strength, my sole power, be Thou present* (*i.e.* to help me).]

SANCTI VENITE OMNES.

[*O come, all ye holy.*]

SANTITAS DOMINO.

[*Holiness to the Lord.*]

SCE *(sic)* TRINITAS VNVS DEVS.

[*Holy Trinity One God.*]

SIT NOMEN DOMINI BENEDICTUM.

[*Blessed be the Name of the Lord.*]

SPIRITUS SANCTUS A PATRE ET FILIO PROCEDENS SUAVITER SONANS AD SALUTEM ANNO DOMINI 1835.
[*The Holy Ghost proceeding from the Father and the Son; sweetly sounding to Salvation A.D.* 1835.]

STANFORDIENSIBVS INSERVIENS IPSA CONTEROR.
[*I am myself worn out while serving for the men of Stamford.*]

STATUTUM EST SEMEL OMNIBVS MORI.
[*It is appointed unto all men once to die.*]

SVM ROSA PVLSATA MVNDI MARIA VOCATA.
[*I being rung am called Mary the Rose of the world.*]

SVPPLICEM DEVS AVDIT.
[*God hears the suppliant.*]

SVRGE AGE.
[*Arise and come.*]

SVSCITO VOCE PIOS TV IESV DIRIGE MENTES.
[*I arouse the pious with my voice; Thou, O Jesus, direct their minds.*]

TEMPLA PETAS SVPPLEX ET VENERARE DEVM.
[*Seek the temples as a suppliant and worship God.*]

THO PER SONO PVLSATVS MARIA DEBET VOCITATVS.
[So on bell: query the meaning?]

TINNITUS RAPIDOS SCINTILLANS SPARGO PER AURAS.
[*I sparkling scatter through the air the rapid sounds.*]

TVBÆ SIC SONITV DOMINI CONDVCO COHORTES.
[*So by the sound of a trumpet I conduct the hosts of the Lord.*]

UT MUNDUS SIC NOS NUNC LÆTITIAM NUNC DOLOREM.
[*As the world, so we, now joy, now grief.*]

VT TVBA SIC SONITV DOMINI CONDVCO COHORTES.
[*As ~~with~~ a trumpet so by (my) sound I conduct the hosts of the Lord.*]

VENITE EXVLTEMVS DOMINO.
[*O come let us sing unto the Lord.*]

VIRGO CORONATA DVC NOS AD REGNA BEATA.
[*O crowned Virgin, lead us to the blessed realms.*]

VITAM METIOR MORTEM PLORO.
[*I measure life: I bewail death.*]

VIVANT REX ET REGINA GVIL : ET MARIA.
[*Long live the King and Queen William and Mary.*]

VIVOS VOCO FESTA DECORO DEFUNCTOS PLORO.
[*I call the living, I grace festivals, I bewail the dead.*]

VOCE MEÂ LAVDO DOMINVM PRO PESTE FVGATÂ HIC ÆGRIS ANIMIS, CHRISTE, MEDERE PRECOR.
[*With my voice I praise the Lord for pestilence banished, I pray Thee here, O Christ, to heal sick souls.*]

VOCO VENI PRECARE.
[*I call. Come to pray.*]

VOX AVGVSTINE SONET IN AVRE DEI.
[*Let the voice of Augustine sound in the ear of God.*]

VOX MEA EST DULCIS MEA SCINTILLANS VULTUS.
[*Sweet is my voice and bright my face.*]

List of the Average Weight of Bells cast by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, Leicestershire. The diameter being known, a reference to this list will give the approximate weight of any bell.

DIAMETER.	WEIGHT.			DIAMETER.	WEIGHT.		
Inches.	*Cwts.*	*Qrs.*	*lbs.*	*Inches.*	*Cwts.*	*Qrs.*	*lbs.*
12	0	1	20	37	9	0	0
13	0	2	6	38	10	0	0
14	0	2	20	39	11	0	0
15	0	3	16	40	12	0	0
16	1	0	0	41	13	0	0
17	1	1	0	42	14	0	0
18	1	2	0	43	15	0	0
19	1	3	0	44	16	0	0
20	2	0	0	45	17	0	0
21	2	1	0	46	18	0	0
22	2	2	0	47	19	0	0
23	2	3	0	48	20	0	0
24	3	0	0	49	21	1	0
25	3	2	0	50	22	2	0
26	4	0	0	51	24	0	0
27	4	2	0	52	25	2	0
28	4	3	0	53	27	0	0
29	5	0	0	54	28	2	0
30	5	2	0	55	30	0	0
31	6	0	0	56	31	2	0
32	6	1	0	57	33	2	0
33	6	2	0	58	36	0	0
34	7	0	0	59	39	0	0
35	7	2	0	60	42	0	0
36	8	1	0				

From an Illuminated MS. of the Psalms (fourteenth century) in the King's Library, British Museum; marked 20, B. xi.

THE INSCRIPTIONS

ON THE

CHURCH BELLS OF LINCOLNSHIRE,

WITH the Diameter at the mouth of each Bell, from which its approximate weight may be ascertained (see page 275). To which are added Extracts, where procurable, from the Commissioners' Returns *temp.* Edward VI., and from Parochial and other Records, together with Local Traditions, Notices of Donors, &c., &c.

Note.—The numbers between [ ] *refer to the drawings or woodcuts on the Plates, or to those worked in with the letterpress. It being impossible to reproduce here the various forms of mediæval Gothic letters found on the ancient bells, one form of letter is used to indicate where Gothic capitals are found* [𝔄 𝔅 ℭ], *and one form where small Gothic or "black letter" is found* [𝔞 𝔟 𝔠]. *For the various forms of Roman letters found on modern bells one form* [A B C] *will suffice.*

Errors of spelling, misplacement of letters, &c., &c., in the following Inscriptions, are copied literally from the Bells. They are therefore Founders' blunders and not Printers' mistakes.

A reference to the pages given after the name of each Parish in the Index will supply, in most instances, information as to the Uses of the Church Bells therein.

A similar reference to the pages given after the name of each Foundry or Founder will furnish some particulars respecting it or him.

ADDLETHORPE.

S. Nicolas. 6 Bells.

1. H HARRISON OF BARTON FOUNDER 1770.
(Diam. 30¾ in.)

2, 3, 4. 1770.
(Diams. 33¼, 35¾, 37¼ in.)

5. DAVID BRIGGS C. W. 1770.
(Diam. 39¾ in.)

6. REMEMBER DEATH 1770.
(Diam. 41¼ in.)

The present bells were cast from the metal of three ancient ones in 1770.

The Churchwardens made the following charges in their Accounts :—

1542. Itm̃ payde for a horse skyne for bell stryngs ..... ij*s.* j*d.*
1552. Receuyd of ye sayd John [Curtas] for on̄ hand bell xiij*d.*
1580. It' geven to ye men of mumbye chappelle for carrynge of ye lytle belle to Lincolne ..... xij*d.*
It' p^d^ for my charges to wenflite iiij tymes going for ye clappers ..... j*s.**

AISTHORPE.

S. Peter. 5 Bells.

1—5. J. TAYLOR & CO., BELLFOUNDERS, LOUGHBOROUGH. GOD SAVE HIS CHURCH 1867.
(Diams. 29½, 30½, 32½, 34½, 37½ in., Key A.)

Prior to 1867 there was one bell only inscribed :—
God save His chvrch 1667.

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* Oldfield's *Wainfleet*, p. 110.

3. ALFORD.

S. Wilfrid. 5 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1, 2, 3, 4. [+ 3] TOBIE NORRIS CAST ME 1676.
TS TWELL PIG.
(Diams. 28, 29½, 31, 36 in.)

5. [+ 1] JOHN TISON WILLIAM DICKINSON C W JOSEF NORTH GENT. TOBY NORRIS MADE ME 1695.
(Diam. 39½ in.)

Priest's Bell:—[Called "Minute Bell."]
Blank.
(Diam. 17 in.)

For Stamps see p. 52.

In 1566 the Churchwardens reported that "a handbell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, still remained.*

On the frame of the 4th bell is:—

W IACKSON HVNG MEE 1772.

4. ALGARKIRK.

SS. Peter and Paul. 5 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1, 2, 4, 5. [+ 2] THOMAS NORRIS MADE MEE 1662.

3. [+ 2] THOMAS NORRIS MADE MEE 1662 W FEILDING W TAYLER.

Priest's Bell:—

Blank.

For Stamp see p. 52.

There is now no approach to the bell chamber: the only means of reaching the bells is by getting on the Chancel roof, climbing from

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 29.

thence on to the Nave roof, and then crawling through a latticed window, which is too small to admit an adult.

The bells are now never rung: they were raised for a few minutes when the Prince of Wales came of age, but have not been rung since.

5 ALKBOROUGH.

S. John Baptist. 3 Bells.

1. AVE MA RI A [□ 107.] [▽ 127.]
O O O O
(Diam. 33 in.: coins on sound-bow.)

2. [+ 116] IESV : FOR : VI : MODIR : SAKE : SAVE : AL : VE : SAVLS : THAT : ME : GART : MAKE : AMEN
(Diam. 38 in.)

3. TVBÆ : SIC : SONITV : DOMINI : CONDVCO COHORTES : 1701 : JOHN : SCARBOROVGH : CHURCH WARDEN [□ 168.]
(Diam. 40½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XV.* pages 114 and 107, and *Plate XXIV.*

The 1st bell has four impressions of small coins on the sound-bow: the letters of the inscription are very small.

The inscription on the 2nd bell is a rare and interesting example of an early one in English. "Gart make" is the old English of *fecerunt fieri*, gart being the preterite of gare, to cause.

The allusion to a trumpet in the inscription on the 3rd is not uncommonly met with, and has reference to the silver trumpets of the

Levites. So Archdeacon Wordsworth in his beautiful Sunday Hymn in the "Holy Year":—

"To holy convocations
The silver trumpet calls."

Rocca compares Trumpets and Bells at some length in his treatise *De Campanis.* [J. T. F.]

In 1553 there were "iij greatt belles, one sanctus bell."*

In 1566 the Churchwardens reported that "Itm̃ a Sakeringe bell and one hand bell" which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, were "broken in peces by the aboue named churchwardēs in anno 1565."†

6 ALLINGTON EAST.

S. Andrew. 2 Bells.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 18 in.)

2. [+ 106] GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH.

[□ 157.]

(Diam. 20 in.]

For Stamps see *Plates XV.* and *XXIII.*

7 ALLINGTON WEST.

Holy Trinity. 2 Bells.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 20½ in. slightly cracked.)

2. [+ 86] MARIA : MATER : GRACIE

(Diam. 23½ in.)

For Stamp see page 86.

The 1st bell, judging from its long form, is an ancient one.

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods* Linc. $\frac{3}{53}$ P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 36.

ALTHORPE.

S. Oswald. 3 Bells.

1. [▽ 119 + 120] Missi De Celis Hēo Nome Gabrielis.
(Diam. 36 in.: no canons.)

2. [▽ 119 + 120] Nome Martini Presulis Dant Parochiani.
(Diam. 39 in.; no canons.)

3. GLORIA IN ALTISSIMIS DEO 1714 CHR GARLAND THO HEATON
WILL: BURN } CHURCH E Sellor
JO. PARKINSON } WARDENS Ebor
(Diam. 42 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XVIII.*

The 1st bell was probably used for the *Angelus* (see p. 210); the 2nd is of the same type, and both are probably coeval with the Perpendicular tower, erected by Sir John Neville, in the reign of Edward IV.

In 1553 there were here, according to the Indented Inventory of goods received by the Parson and Churchwardens for use in the church, "j greyt bell one Santus bell."*

This I cannot reconcile with the present existence of two bells which are almost certainly of an earlier date than the Inventory.

ALVINGHAM.

S. Adelwold. 3 Bells.

1. THO. WARMOTH 1726 JOHN BROOKES C.W.
(Diam. 30½ in.)

2. [+ 28] Nomen Magdalene Campana Geret Melodie [▽ 30 □ 33.]
(Diam. 33 in.)

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$ P. R. Off.

3. [+ 28] Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum [▽ 30 □ 33.]
(Diam. 36 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate III.*

AMCOTTS.

S. Mark. 3 Bells.

1, 2. Blank.
(Weights 3 cwt. 1 qr. 26 lbs., 4 cwt. 2 qrs. 18 lbs.)
3. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1853.
(Weight 4 cwt. 3 qrs. 10 lbs.)

The ancient Chapel (dedicated to S. Thomas of Canterbury), which fell down in 1850, had only one bell, which, most probably, went to the foundry when the present three bells were given to the new church by the late Mr. J. B. Fairell.

ANCASTER.

S. Martin. 5 Bells.

1. J. TAYLOR & Co. FOUNDERS, LOUGHBOROUGH 1881.
2. 1607 [□ 113.]
3. my rouringe sobnde doth warninge gebe that men cannot heare always lybe 1602 [□ 113.]
4. all men that heare my mobrnfbll sobnd repent before yob lye in grobnd 1602 [□ 113.]
5. I will sobnde and resobnde bnto thy people o lord with my sweet boyce to call them to thy word E.E : F.B : 1602 [□ 113.]
[All have had their canons cut off.]

For Stamp see *Plate XVI.*

Prior to 1881 there were four bells only. Early in that year a new treble (weighing 7 cwt.) was given to the church by the Rev. J. P.

Maud, the Vicar; at the same time the whole ring was rehung in a new oaken frame.

ANDERBY.

S. Andrew. 1 Bell and a Priest's Bell.

1. JOHN TAYLOR & SON BELLFOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1856.
(Diam. 34 in.)

Priest's Bell:—

+ Taylor 1856.
(Diam. 12½ in.)

ANWICK.

S. Edith. 3 Bells.

1. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1654 W THOMPSON J SQVIRE WARDENS [□ 157.]
(Diam. 27 in.)
2. GRATA SIT ARGUTA RESONANS CAMPANULA VOCE : ANNO : DOM : 1730 +
(Diam. 29½ in.)
3. WILL GLADWIИ WARDEИ 1656 [□ 157.]
(Diam. 33 in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XXIII.*
The 2nd bell was from the Kettering foundry.

APLEY.

The Mortuary Chapel here has a modern small bell without Inscription or date.

"The bell which now is placed over the West end of the building formerly hung in a tree."*

APPLEBY.

S. Bartholomew. 6 Bells.

1, 2. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1853
GLORIA PATRI ET FILIO SPIRITUI SANCTO.
(Diams. 28, 30 in.)

3. DANIEL HEDDERLY FOVN-DER 1741.
(Diam. 32 in.)

4. DANIEL HEDDERLY CAST VS IN 1739.
(Diam. 34 in.)

5. [□ 84] sca ma ria o p s [▽ 89.]
(Diam. 37 in.)

6. GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH H [+ 116] O 1628.
(Diam. 40 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XIV.* and pages 87 and 107.

The 5th bell has the fylfot (see p. 83) in a letter D instead of an initial cross. The shield has been partly obliterated previous to the casting of the bell; it is, however, found entire on bells at Braithwell in Yorkshire and at Monyash, Derbyshire. O p s is a mistake for o p n —*ora pro nobis.* The letters and cross on the 6th are like those on the 2nd at Alkborough, and the initials are those of Henry Oldfield of Nottingham.

There is extant the "specification of the Plan and Sections for the new Bell-frame for the Parish Church of Appleby, June 12, 1821. James Harrison."

* Saunders' *Hist. of Lincolnshire*, Vol. II. p. 64.

Also an estimate from the same James Harrison in three forms: 1st to recast the four old bells, and to add metal to augment to six bells for £255 10s. 2nd to supply two new bells, and rehang the whole for £160 2s. 3rd to rehang the old bells with no addition to the ring for £50 4s.

Judging from the present bells the last estimate was the one chosen, the new bells not being added until the year 1853.

There is a tradition here that the Appleby folk stole (!) the tenor bell from the adjoining parish of Broughton.

ASGARBY.

S. Andrew. 4 Bells.

1. WILL^M HOWETT C^H WARDEN 1796 : T. Osborn Downham Norfolk Founder.
(Diam. 27½ in.)
2. W^M HOWETT C : WARDEN T. Osborn Fecit 1796.
(Diam. 29 in.)
3. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1630.
(Diam. 32 in.)
4. [+ 116] In Honore Sce Andrae [▽ 119.]
(Diam. 35½ in.)

For Stamps see page 107 and *Plate XVIII.*

Prior to 1630 there were two bells—in addition to the present tenor—inscribed:—

1. In Honore Sc̄i Johannis.
2. In Honore Sc̄i Jacobi.*

ASGARDBY.

S. Swithin. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 14 in.)

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* *Harl. MSS.* 6829, p. 295.

In 1553 there were here "ij gret belles & a sanctus bell."* These, probably, disappeared when the ancient church was demolished.

ASHBY-CUM-FENBY.

S. PETER. 3 BELLS.

1. VOCO VENI PRECARE JOHN WHALLEY CHVRCH WARDEN 1725 [□ 168.]

(Diam. 29 in.; height 22 in.)

2. GLORIA IN ALTISSIMIS DEO. JOHN WHALLEY CHVRCH WARDEN 1725 [□ 168.]

(Diam. 32 in.; height 24 in.)

3. GLORIA IN ALTISSIMIS DEO. 1699 JOHN WHALEY CHVRCH WARDEN [□ 168.]

(Diam. 36 in.; height 28 in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XXIV.*

In 1553 there were here "iij grete belles."†

ASHBY-BY-PARTNEY.

S. HELEN. 1 BELL AND A PRIEST'S BELL.

1. [+ 1] EDWARD READE C W T N [MADE] MEE 1691.

(Diam. 23½ in.)

Priest's Bell :—

Blank.

(Diam. 10½ in.)

For Stamp see p. 52.

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods,* $\frac{3}{5}\frac{3}{4}$, P. R. Off. † *Augm. Office Misc.* 507.

ASHBY-DE-LA-LAUNDE.

S. Hybald. 5 Bells.

1, 2, 3, 4. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FOUNDER 1834.
(Diams. 27, 29, 30, 32½ in.)

5. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FOUNDER 1834.
THE PEAL OF 5 BELLS OF WHICH THIS IS THE TENOR WAS PRESENTED TO THE CHURCH OF ST. HYBALD OF ASHBY-DE-LA-LAUNDE BY CLIFFORD KING, ESQUIRE, LORD OF THE MANOR &c. &c. J. W. KING A.M. VICAR JOSEPH CLARKE CHURCHWARDEN.
I SWEETLY TOLLING MEN DO CALL
TO TASTE OF MEATES WHICH FEEDE THE SOULE.
[*Arms of* ▽ *Donor.*]
(Diam. 35 in.)

In 1566 the Churchwardens reported that the handbells formerly belonging to this church were "stollē at the same tyme" that is "in quene maries tyme."*

Prior to 1834 there were two bells only.

The arms on the present Tenor are:—Sable on a chevron engrailed argent 3 escallops of the first. Motto:—*Virtuti Fortuna Cedit.*

There is a tradition which is, however, untrue, that the bells here came down from London in company with "Great Tom" of Lincoln—that bell came on a carriage by itself.

The Rev. J. W. King (see 5th bell)—who was instituted as Vicar in 1822—he rebuilt the chancel and nave of the church,—died 9th May, 1875, and was buried in the chancel of this church.

* Peacock's *Chur. Fur.* p. 30.

ASHBY PUERORUM.

S. ANDREW. 2 BELLS.

1 and 2. Blank.

(Diams. 21, 22 in.)

In 1552 "Assebye puerorum in the parties of Lindesey" possessed "It' ij greate bells one Sanctus bell & ij handebells" which were valued at 51*s*.*

ASHBY WEST.

ALL SAINTS. 3 BELLS AND A PRIEST'S BELL.

1. LESTER AND PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1759.
(Diam. 30 in.)
2. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1850. REV. W. M. PIERCE INCUMBENT ABR^M^. SHARP CHURCHWARDEN.
(Diam. 33 in.)
3. LESTER AND PACK LONDON FECIT. VOCO AD TEMPLUM 1759.
(Diam. 35 in.)

Priest's Bell:—

Blank.
(Diam. 14½ in.)

The three ancient bells here were inscribed:—

1. Sit nomen Domini benedictum.
2. Intonat e celis vox campana Michaelis.
3. Sum rosa pulsata mundi Maria vocata.†

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 78, P. R. Off. † *Harl. MS.* 6829, p. 342.

The second bell, cast with the others in 1759, fell whilst a peal was being rung, and was so much damaged that it had to be recast in 1850.

On the frame of the Tenor bell is the date 1673.

ASLACKBY.

S. James. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. [+ 2] OMNIA [◻ 5] FIANT [◻ 5] AD [◻ 5] GLORIAM [◻ 5] DEI [◻ 5] 1633 [◻ 5] T [◻ 5] GROVES [◻ 5] R [◻ 5] MAYFEILD.
(Diam. 30 in.)

2. [+ 2] IOHN QVINSEY ISAY CHARLS CW TOBIE NORRIS CAST ME 1683.
(Diam. 33½ in.)

3. [+ 94?] DEO · · HE EK · · · [▽ 93·]
(Diam. 35 in. apparently an imperfect casting.)

Priest's Bell:—

[+ 2] Omnia : fiant : ad : gloriam : Dei 1611.
(Diam. 12½ in.: unhung and cracked.)

For Stamps see pages 52, 53, and 88.

In 1566 the Churchwardens reported that "ij handbells" which were here in Queen Mary's reign had been "sold vnto wm Callis A°. iij Elizabeth by the abousaid churchwardens wch is defacid."*

ASTERBY.

S. Peter. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 83] SCE PETRE.
(Diam. 24 in.)

2. 1824.
(Diam. 26½ in.)

---

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 31.

3. scā maria [▽ 124.]
(Diam. 28 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XIV.* and page 111.

In 1552 there were here "iij bells in ye stepyll j sanct' bell."* Two of those bells still remain.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported "or candelstickes crwetes handbells and a sacring bell—we had non sens the dethe of King Edward."†

ASWARBY.

S. Denis. 3 Bells.

1. sce dionisii [▽ 124.]
(Diam. 29½ in.)

2. [+ 1] GOD SAVE THE KING THOMAS NORRIS MADE ME 166[?]8.
(Diam. 32½ in.)

3. [+ 111] IHESVS BE OVRE SPEDE WC WI CB [□ 113.]
(Diam. 34½ in.)

For Stamps see pages 111 and 52 and *Plate XVI.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that they had "broken the start" [a straight handle] off "one hand bell" which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, and had sold it "to Johnne Chamberlaine and he haith made a morter thereof." They further said:—"Itm one sacringe bell broken in peces and sold likewise."‡

ASWARDBY.

S. Helen. 1 Bell.

1. [+ 116] FEARE GOD 1619.
(Diam. 20 in.)

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

† Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 33.

‡ Ib. pp. 33, 34.

For Stamp see page 107.

In 1552, when an Inventory of the Church Goods belonging to "Aserbye in the parties of Lindse," and their valuation, were taken, the following entries were made:—

Itm̃ ij bells and a litill bell .....xxvj*s.* viij*d.*
Itm̃ ij handbells..... xij*d.**

AUBOURN.

S. Peter. 3 Bells.

1—3. G. MEARS & CO. FOUNDERS LONDON 1852.
(Diams. 31, 33, 36 in.)

This is a modern church consecrated in 1852; in the old church hung a bell inscribed:—

ihc ne mi on ni

Many enquiries were made for an explanatory reading: read backwards it is:—

in nomine I H C.

In 1566 the Churchwardens reported that "Itm̃ j handbell one sacring bell," which had belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, were "broken and defaced in the fyrst yeare of quene Elizabethe by Mr. mearse."†

AUNSBY.

S. Thomas a Becket. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 2] T. DOBS C. W. TOBIAS NORRIS CAST ME 1684.
(Diam. 30 in.)

2. ✠ sweetly toling men do call to taste on meats that feeds the soole 1612 [□ 113.]
(Diam. 35 in.)

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 78, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 35.

3. [+ 1] GOD SAVE THE KING 1669.
(Diam. 39 in.)

For stamps see page 52 and *Plate XVI.*

AUTHORPE.

S. Margaret. 1 Bell.

1. MEARS LONDON.

The present church was built in 1848, when the above bell was provided.

AYLESBY.

S. Lawrence. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1610.
(Diam. 29 in.)

2. [+ 117?] GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1610.
(Diam. 32 in.)

3. HVIVS SANCTI [+ 120 + 116] PETRI [▽ 119.]
(Diam. 36 in.)

Priest's Bell :—

Blank.
(Diam. 15 in.)

For Stamps see page 108, *Plate XVIII.*, and page 107.

Many of the letters on the 2nd bell are upside down. The two crosses on the 3rd are (which is unusual) in the centre of the inscription.

In 1553 Aylesby (as now) possessed "iij greatt belles, one sanctus bell."*

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507.

BARDNEY.

S. Lawrence. 4 Bells.

1. × SOLI DEO GLORIA 1644 T T W K CHVRCH-WARDNES.

(Diam. 31 in.)

2. [+ 165] W. S 1670.

(Diam. 33 in.)

3. [+ 162] Santitas Domino M M T S 1663 W S

(Diam. 37 in.; cracked.)

4. [+ 116] IHESVS BE OVR SPEDE 1615.

C C R R

(Diam. 39 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXIV.* and page 107. The Stamp on the 1st bell is a rude S. Andrew's cross.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "ij hand belles . . . wth other mettell of papistry," which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, had been "sold to robt fowler and he saythe th they by defacid."*

BARHOLM.

S. Martin. 3 Bells.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 24 in.; a piece broken out.)

2. [+ 90] LEWKAS [□ 91.]

(Diam. 26 in.)

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 37.

3. [+ 90] MARCVS [□ 91.]
(Diam. 30 in.)

For Stamps see page 87.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "Itm̃ sacringe bell wee had none . . . Itm̃ handbelles we had none" in Queen Mary's time.*

There is an impression that the 1st bell here came from the dismantled church at Stow about the year 1780; but it appears that although a bell was brought from Stow, and placed (not hung) in Barholm Church, it was subsequently removed, and, owing to a dispute, was broken in pieces during removal.

33 BARKSTON.

S. Nicolas. 3 Bells.

1, 2. T. MEARS FECIT LONDON 1821.
(Diams. 28, 30 in.)

3. [+ 106] GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH [□ 113.]
(Diam. 32 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XV.* and *XVI.*

In 1566 the Churchwardens reported that "ij hande belles broken . . . . one sacring bell" which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time "were defaced about three yeres past . . . . . and sold at Christem̃s last."†

34 BARKWITH EAST.

S. Mary. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. IESVS BE YAO SPEED —4
(Diam. 27¾ in.: cracked.)

---

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 38. † Ib. p. 39.

2. DANIEL HEDDERLY CAST VS ALL 1738. PEACE BE TO YOV.

(Diam. 31¾ in.)

3. DANIEL HEDDERLY DEO GLORIA 1738.

(Diam. 33¾ in.)

Priest's Bell:—

A. W. 0071.

(Diam. 11 in.)

BARKWITH WEST.

ALL SAINTS. 2 BELLS.

1. [+ 165] W S 1670 [□ 167.]

(Diam. 26¼ in.)

2. [▽ 80 □ 81 □ 82.]

(Diam. 29½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXIV.* and *XIV.*

There is a tradition that there were formerly three bells here.

BARLINGS.

S. EDWARD. 1 BELL.

One small modern Bell without Inscription or date, probably hung when the church was rebuilt in or about the year 1807.

BARNETBY-LE-WOLD.

S. MARY. 3 BELLS.

1. [+ 111] MARGARETA

(Diam. 26½ in.)

2. [□ 144] [illegible] [□ 142] [□ 143] [illegible] [□ 143.]
(Diam. 30 in.)

3. [▽ 137] SCE TRINITAS VNVS DEVS
(Diam. 32 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XVI.*, *XXI.*, and *XX.*

The 1st and 3rd bells are uniform in character, the letters being small gothic capitals found elsewhere with the same founder's stamps.

BARNOLDBY-LE-BECK.

S. Helen. 3 Bells.

1. [□ 107] [+ 140] [▽ 127] S [+ 140] S [+ 140] S
(Diam. 28 in.)

2. [+ 1] IESVS BE OVR SPEED
(Diam. 33 in.)

3. [+ 1] IHESVS BE OVR SPED 1608.
(Diam. 36 in.: all have lost their canons.)

For Stamps see *Plate XV.*, pages 118, 114, and 52.

The frame of the bells here appears to be original: it is very like that at Pittington near Durham, figured in the Rev. J. T. Fowler's *Bells in the City and Neighbourhood of Durham*, p. 3, but straight sided.

In 1553 "Barnaldby" possessed "iij greatt belles j sanctus bell."*

BARROW-ON-HUMBER.

Holy Trinity. 6 Bells.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 31 in.)

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

2. T. WHITBEE MINISTER R. YONGE C. MARRIS 1638 [□ 157.]

(Diam. 35 in.)

3. ROBERT KIRK VICAR THO^S CAVIL & ROB^T ROCKLIFFE CHURCHWARDENS 1749. THOMAS LESTER OF LONDON FECIT.

(Diam. 37 in.)

4. [+ 116] FUSOR G F VICARIVS GARDIAM 1674 J GOODHAN [□ 157] W HARESON WARDENSD.

(Diam. 39½ in.)

5. JOHN BROCKRVM ESQVIER GEORGE OATES MINNESTER 1636 [□ 157.]

(Diam. 42 in.)

6. OMNIBUS SONO PLACERE 1713.
THO^S SCRIVENER CHURCH E. Seller
EDW. GLENTWORTH WARDENS Ebor.

(Diam. 46¼ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXIII.*, and page 107.

Prior to 1713 there were only five bells.

The 1st bell is a poor casting full of bubbles: all save this have had the canons cut off. The founder has made a strange business of the inscription on the 4th; "guardiam" doubtless ought to be *guardiani.* This bell has a crack excised from the sound-bow. The 5th has a gothic K inserted among the other letters. The 6th has a rich crown ornament often used by the founder—E. Seller of York. Considering that these bells are all of different dates, and by two or three different founders, and that two or three of them appear to be defective, for the Tenor is not the same thickness all the way round, it is remarkable that this ring has long enjoyed the reputation of being the best in North Lincolnshire. It probably owes much to its situation near the banks of the Humber. [J. T. F.]

The Rev. T. Whitbie (see 2nd bell) died in 1658: The Rev. Geo. Otes (see 5th bell) in 1637; and the Rev. Robert Kirk (see 3rd bell)

was buried 25th May, 1755. The Parish Registers give no information as to John Brockrum, Esq., whose name is on the 5th bell.

BARROWBY.

All Saints. 5 Bells.

1. THO. HEDDERLY FOUNDER NOTT. 1774. GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH.
   (Diam. 31 in.)
2. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH MARKE JENKINSON 1712.
   (Diam. 32 in.)
3. THO. HEDDERY FOUNDER 1774 JOHN DORR CHURCHWARDEN.
   (Diam. 33½ in.)
4. GLOREY BE TO GOD AND HIGH. JOHN DORR CHURCHWARDEN THO. HEDDERLY FOUNDER NOTT^M 1774.
   (Diam. 36 in.)
5. [▫ 107] [▽ 127] Celeorum xte placeat tibi rex sonus iste.
   (Diam. 39 in.: all canons cut off.)

For Stamps see *Plate XV.* and page 114.

Prior to 1774 there were four bells only: the present tenor was then the 3rd and the then 2nd was inscribed:—

In multis annis resonet campana Johannis.*

In 1566 the Churchwardens reported that "two hand belles" which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time had been "sold to Thomas Clarke the yonger sens michaelmas past and he haith broken them in peces."†

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* *Harl, MSS.* 6829, p. 306. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 41.

BARTON-ON-HUMBER.

S. PETER. 6 BELLS.

1. IESVS BE MY SPEED 1666.
(Diam. $27\frac{1}{4}$ in.)
2. DANIEL HEDDERLY FOVNDER 1741.
(Diam. $29\frac{1}{4}$ in.)
3. GEORGE ADAMSON WILLIAM BYGOTT C. W. 1741.
(Diam. $31\frac{1}{4}$ in.)
4. I sweetly toling men do call to taste on meats that feeds the soble [□ 113.]
(Diam. $31\frac{3}{4}$ in.)
5. GOD SAVE OVR CHVRCH 1598 [□ 113] [▽ 114]
(Diam. $34\frac{3}{4}$ in. ; crown ornament □ 118.)
6. HENRY NELTHORPE AND WILLIAM GILDAS CHVRCH WARDENS 1743.
OVR SOVNDING IS EACH MAN TO CALL TO SARVE THE LORD BOTH GREAT AND SMALL.
(Diam. 40 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XVI.*, *XVII.*, and page 108.

The 5th and 6th have had the canons cut off. The inscriptions on the 1st and a portion of that on the 6th are in archaic letters.

Formerly a bell was rung here at eight o'clock in the evening during the winter months for the guidance of travellers. The tradition is that an old lady being accidentally benighted on the wolds she was directed in her course by the sound of a bell—probably the curfew—ringing at S. Peter's Church; to show her gratitude she gave a piece of land to the parish clerk on condition that he should ring one of the church bells from seven to eight o'clock every evening, except Sundays, commencing the day of the carrying the first load of barley in every year,

until Shrove-Tuesday next ensuing inclusive. In a Terrier of 1730 it is stated that "the clerk holds 13 acres & 3 stongs of arable land lying dispersed in the several fields of Barton" for ringing one of the bells of S. Peter's, called "the Barley Bell," at the time just mentioned. At the Inclosure the clerk's allotment is put at 7 acres 2 roods 16 perches. The custom of ringing the bell, however, ceased about the year 1860.

42. BARTON-ON-HUMBER.

S. Mary. 4 Bells.

1. GEORG KIDSON THOMAS FERRIS WARDENS 1666 [◻ 157.]
(Diam. 35¼ in.)
2. my rouring sobnde doth warning gebe that men cannot heare always lybe [◻ 113.]
C W P W
(Diam. 37 in.)
3. ALL GLORY BEE TO GOD ON HIGH 1666 [◻ 157.]
(Diam. 41¾ in.)
4. ALL MEN THAT HEARE MY MOURNFVLL SOVND REPENT BEFORE YOV LYE IN GROVND 1666 [◻ 157.]
(Diam. 46 in.; all have canons cut off.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXIII.* and *XVI.*

The following account relating to the expenses attending the recasting of the 2nd bell here in 1641, gives a good idea of the difficulties and expenses of travelling at that period:—

	s.	*d.*
Bestowed of a workman which came to see the riven bell	1	0
In charges of the bell-founder when we agreed for the second bell casting, at two several meetings	3	6
To John Addamson and Jasper Greene, for helping down the riven bell	1	0

	s.	d.
To other poor labourers, for helping down the bell	1	0
For a man and horse going to Lincoln to get the articles sealed—Bond concerning the agreement for the 2nd Bell casting	4	6
To Jasper Greene and his son, for making a waine fitt to carry the bell to Lincoln for their day's work	2	0
To Mr Chapman for making 2 waine felfs for the bell to lye in		8
To charges for the bell carrying to Lincoln:—		
For four men's dinners at Brigg on Monday 16th of November	2	0
For 2 pecks of provender and hay at Brigg for 6 horses and 2 oxen	1	2
At Redburn that night for 4 men's suppers	2	0
For three pecks of oats that night	1	6
For hay there for the horses and oxen	2	0
For our 4 breakfasts on Tuesday morning	2	0
For three pecks of oats for the horses that morning	1	6
For one bottle of hay and 2 bands		6
For unwaining the bell at Lincoln		8
For our suppers that night at Lincoln	2	0
For 3 pecks of provender that night	1	6
For hay that night	2	0
For 3 pecks of provender on Wednesday morning	1	6
For hay that day	2	0
For our dinners and suppers that day	4	0
Bestowed on the workmen when the bell was casting	1	0
For 3 pecks of provender and hay that night	3	6
For provender on Tuesday morning and hay that day	3	6
For help to pull the bell out of the pit	1	0
For help to waine the bell		6
For our suppers at Spittle that night	2	0
For 3 pecks of provender that night and hay	3	6

		s.	d.
For our dinners that day		2	0
For provender at noon and hay for the cattle		1	9
For our suppers that night		2	0
For 3 pecks of provender and hay that night		3	6
For our breakfasts on Satterday morning		2	0
For 3 pecks of provender		1	6
For one bottle of hay			3
For 2 new shoes for Edward Thompson's horse			8
For 3 pair of new traces		1	0
For our expenses in drink all the said days		3	4
For the bell casting at 15*s.* per hundred weighing 1200 and odd weight	9	4	0
For 3 stone of his mettall more than the old at 14*s.* per stone	2	2	0
For the bellfounder's meat at Edward Browne's		18	0
For getting the new bell upp into the steeple, bestowed of workmen		1	6
For 1½ lb. of swine's grease for the tackles, to get her upp			6
To Richard Page for his waine and his oxen going with the bell to Lincoln		10	0
Given to his man		1	0
For 2 men we hired in our roomes the week we went to Lincoln with the Bell		6	0*

43

BASSINGHAM.

S. Michael. 5 Bells.

1—4. Blank.

(Diam. 27, 30, 33, 35 in.)

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* Ball's *Hist. of Barton*, Part II. p. 9.

5. WILLIAM ROLLISON AND JOHN MARFLEET CHURCH-WARDENS 1770.
(Diam. 38 in.)

In 1565-6 the Churchwardens reported:—"Itm̃ that the said churchwardens haith broken the handbelles" (that is, those belonging to the church in Queen Mary's reign) "in peces as yt here appearethe."*

BASSINGTHORPE.

S. Thomas of Canterbury. 4 Bells.

1. [▽ 124 ▫ 125 ▫ 125]
(Diam. 26¼ in.)
2. [+ 1.] HEИRY TOMLIИSOИ C W 1694.
(Diam. 27½ in.)
3. [+ 140] S [+ 140] S [▽ 127.]
(Diam. 31¼ in.)
4. [+ 3] MVLTI VOCATI PAVCI ELECTI 1619.
(Diam. 33½ in.)

For Stamps see pages 111, 112, 52, 118 and 114.

BASTON.

S. John. 5 Bells.

1. GEORGE TAYLOR JOHN SPINKES WARDENS 1705.
(Diam. 22 in.)
2. [+ 1] WILLIAM ИORTOИ THOMAS ИORTOИ 1694.
(Diam. 23 in.)
3. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1705.
(Diam. 24½ in.: cracked in the crown.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 41.

4. RICHARD PARKINSON CHURCHWARDEN ÷ EDW^D ARNOLD LEICESTER FECIT 1797.

(Diam. 29 in.)

5. [+ 1] TOBY NORRIS MADE ME 1693.

(Diam. 35 in.; cracked.)

For Stamps see page 52.

The following initials &c. are cut on the frames of the 1st and 2nd bells:—

S B. R W. C. W. 1680. W N. T N. G T. T H. J W. R W. 1693.

These bells and the belfry have been much neglected in past times: there is now a wish to remedy this when funds can be raised.

In 1565-6 the churchwardens reported that "a handbell," which had belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, had been "broken in peces & sold to thoms leivicke vpon sondaie last 1565[6]" and that "one sacring bell [and] two clappers" . . . "wee know not what is become of theim nor what was done w^t theim nor whoe had theim or made theim awaie and that we will depose vpon a book."*

There is a tradition—not an uncommon one in other places—that the Langtoft bells and those belonging to this parish being cast at the same time were exchanged by the founder, and so missent—the Baston bells to Langtoft, and the Langtoft bells here.

BAUMBER.

S. SWITHIN. 3 BELLS AND A PRIEST'S BELL.

1. GLORIA SOLI DEO A B 1638. [▽ 170.]

(Diam. 35 in.)

2. [+ 104] HABEO NOMEN GABRIELIS DE CELIS 1585. R. G.

(Diam. 38½ in.: cracked.]

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 43.

3. CUM VOCO AD TEMPLUM VENITE 1637 [□ 4.]
(Diam. 40 in.)

Priest's Bell :—

Blank.
(Diam. $12\frac{3}{4}$ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXV.* and pages 101 and 53.

In 1553 "Bambre" possessed "iiij gret bells and a Sanctus bell."*

BECKINGHAM.

ALL SAINTS. 6 BELLS.

1. JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER BARTON 1829.
(Diam. 27 in.)
2. ·:·· BY SUBSCRIPTION THOS. OSBORN FECIT THE REV^D RICH^D HACKET RECTOR 1790: ···
(Diam. 30 in.)
3. :: · REV^D RICH^D HACKET RECTOR ROBERT JOHNSON C^H WARDEN T. OSBORN FECIT 1790.
(Diam. 32 in.)
4. [+ 106] GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH 1632.
(Diam. $32\frac{1}{2}$ in.)
5. REV. ROBERT MOODY RECTOR : RICHARD JOHNSON CHURCHWARDEN 1829.
(Diam. $35\frac{1}{2}$ in.)
6. ALL GLORY BEE TO GOD ON HIGH 1668.
[□ 157]
(Diam. $39\frac{1}{2}$ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XV.* and *XXIII.*

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

BEELSBY.

S. Andrew. 1 Bell.

1. 1819.

(Diam. 26 in.)

In 1553 "Beylsbeye" possessed "iij greatt belles j sanctus bell."*

There is a tradition that there were once several bells here which were sold at the commencement of the present century to the parish of Great Coates in this county, when they were recast by James Harrison. [See under Coates Magna.] This tradition is confirmed by the entry in the Edwardian Inventory just quoted.

BEESBY.

S. Andrew. 3 Bells.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 21 in.)

2. [+ 2] TOBIE MORRIS CAST ME 1676.

(Diam. 22 in.)

3. [□ 76] [+ 79 □] HEC PRO LAVDE [□ 76] [□] PIE [□] RESONAT [□ 76] [□] CAM-PANA [□] MARIE

(Diam. 27 in.)

For Stamps see pages 52, 79, and 80: the other stamps (unnumbered) are described on p. 81.

In 1566 the churchwardens of "Beeson" reported that they had no handbell "sence King Edwardes tyme but a handbell wch wee borowed in quene Maries tyme of the church of Salebie to whome wee redeliuerid it againe A° pmo Elizabth."†

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

† Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 44.

BELLEAU.

S. John. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 83 □ 82 ▽ 80 □ 81.]
(Diam. 26 in.)

2. 1823.
(Diam. 27¼ in.)

3. I BARKER I DOVS [+ 1] TOBIE NORRIS CAST ME 1669.
(Diam. 31¼ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XIV.* and p. 52.

BELSHFORD.

S. Andrew. 1 Bell.

1. [+ 164] GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH W S H W 1683.
(Diam. 28 in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XXIV.*

In 1553 "Belchworth" possessed "three great bells one Sanctus bell."*

BELTON near Grantham.

SS. Peter and Paul. 5 Bells.

1. ADELAIDE COMES BROWNLOW 1872 MEARS & STAINBANK LONDON.
(Diam. 27 in.: weight 4 cwt. 2 qrs. 11 lbs.)

2. [▽ 139] IHS MARIA
(Diam. 27 in.: rim cut off.)

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

3. [+ 106] GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH 1606 [□ 113.]
(Diam. 32 in.)

4. [▽ 127] personet hec celis dulcissima box gabrielis.
(Diam. 35 in.)

5. ADELBERT COMES BROWNLOW 1872 MEARS & STAINBANK LONDON.
(Diam. 38½ in.: weight 10 cwt. 1 qr. 13 lbs.)

For Stamps see *Plates XX.*, *XV.*, and *XVI.* and p. 114.

In 1566 the Churchwardens reported that "diurse other popishe peltrie was stoln out of o' church thre or iiij^or year ago by whome wee knowe not."* The handbells and sacring bell probably then disappeared, as they are not mentioned in the Inventory of church goods destroyed.

There was formerly a Priest's bell, which, being cracked, was taken down, recast, and hung at the School.

On the bell frame is:—

IF
HH 1676

Sir Adelbert Wellington Brownlow-Cust, 3rd Earl Brownlow (see tenor bell), married Lady Adelaide Talbot, youngest daughter of Henry John, 18th Earl of Shrewsbury (see treble bell). There were only three bells prior to 1872, when the Earl and Countess Brownlow gave the two new bells, and rehung the whole ring.

On the font is a figure of a "campanarius" chiming 2 bells (see p. 150).

53 BELTON (ISLE OF AXHOLME).

ALL SAINTS. 4 BELLS.

1. JOHN SHAW C.W : 1748.
(Diam. 31 in.)

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 48.

2. FEARE GOD HONOVR THE KING 1663 [□ 157.]
(Diam. 33½ in.)

3. my roaringe sounde doth warning gebe that men cannot heare always lybe 1663 [□ 157.]
(Diam. 35 in.)

4. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1845.
(Diam. 41 in.; weight 11 cwt. 2 qrs. 23 lbs.)

For Stamp see *Plate XXIII.*

In 1553 there were here "iij gret belles."*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "Itm̃ ij handbells and one sacringe bell" which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time had been "defacid . . . this yere by the churchwardens."†

The tenor bell was previously inscribed:—

Jn° Morris C.W. 1748.
(Diam. 40 in.)

There was also "one other small bell, with frame, one foot two inches in Diameter, with this Inscription Ric. Taylor Ro. Robinson Ch. Wardens 1709."‡ Both these bells being cracked they were sent to the founder in 1845.

BENINGTON.

ALL SAINTS. 6 BELLS.

1. G. BRABBINS & M BLAKE CH WA. JOSEPH MALLOWS FECIT 1759.
(Diam. 26 in.)

2. JOSEPH MALLOWS DEREHAM IN NORFOLK 1759.
(Diam. 27½ in.)

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods Linc.* $\frac{3}{5}\frac{3}{3}$ P. R. Off.

† Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 46.

‡ Extracted by the Rev. R. Walker, Rector, from "*A True Note and Terrier taken and renewed 3rd Nov.* 1826."

3. [+ 1] TOBY NORRIS CAST ALL FIVE IN 1686.
(Diam. 30 in.)
4. THE HILLS & VALES & TOWNS ALL ROUND SHALL ECHO WITH A PLEASANT SOUND 1759.
(Diam. 32 in.)
5. HENRY PENN MADE ME 1725.
(Diam. 34½ in.)
6. TO CHURCH THE HOUSE OF GOD : COME ALL I CRY : TO PRAISE HIS NAME TO ALL ETERNITY 1759.
(Diam. 39½ in.; all have been quartered and have lost their canons.)

For Stamp see page 52.

It is evident from the inscription on the present 3rd bell that prior to 1759 there were only five bells. Marrat says of them "six very musical bells, being the best in this neighbourhood."

BENNINGTON LONG.

ALL SAINTS. 4 BELLS.

1. EDWARD GVY VICAR JOHN KINING CHVRCH-WARDENS 1736 G. O.
(Diam. 32½ in.)
2. AMBROSE KINNING CHURCHWARDEN THOMAS HEDDERLY FOUNDER 1764.
(Diam. 30 in.)
3. I sweetly toling men do call to taste on meats that feed the soule 1630.
W S M R Wardens [□ 157.]
(Diam. 35½ in.)
4. J. HARRISON FOUNDER REV. M. E. WELBY VICAR. JOHN WHITAKER CHURCHWARDEN 1827.
(Diam. 40 in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XXIII.*

BENNIWORTH.

S. Julian. 3 Bells.

1, 3. J. TAYLOR & CO. FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1875.

(Diam. 24½, 28½ in.)

2. ANNO DOMINI 1577.

(Diam. 25½ in.)

Although at some time previous to 1875 there were three bells, one had at that time disappeared, and ~~the~~ an other being cracked (it was dated 1675) it was sent to be recast and a new bell purchased to replace the missing one.

There is a tradition that the bells here came from the old church at Sotby, and that those originally belonging to Benniworth went to South Willingham; but the present bells at South Willingham could never have hung in this tower, they being much too large.

There is also a tradition that a benighted fisherman, who had lost his way, was led, by the sound of the church bell here, to shelter, and that to show his gratitude he left a few acres of land in the parish of Toynton S. Peter to the Parson. The land is still there belonging to the Rector of Benniworth, and a record of it appears in an old Terrier dated early in the 17th century. Another version (preferred by the people) is that he left the land for the poor of Benniworth, and a string of eels for the Parson!

BICKER.

S. Swithin. 6 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. T. OSBORN FECIT RAIS'D BY SUBSCRIPTION W. MORLEY CH. WARDEN 1784.
2. Pack & Chapman of London Fecit 1780 Raised By Subscription.

3. [+ 106] GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH 1636.
4. WILLIAM MORLEY & BRACE^G GREEN CHURCH WARDENS. PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1780.
5. PERCUTE DULCE CANO T. OSBORN FECIT 1785 W. MORLEY CH : WARDEN.
6. W. BYDALL W GRAIИ [+ 2] THOMAS NORRIS MADE ME 1661.

(Diam. 36 in.)

Priest's Bell :—

IOH : ME : YEYT : U :

For Stamps see *Plate XV.* and page 52.

The Priest's bell is an interesting example of an ancient Sanctus bell with the name of the founder in English :—Joh : me : yeyt : that is, John cast me.

BIGBY.

ALL SAINTS. 3 BELLS.

1, 2. W S [+ 165] 1680 [□ 167.]
3. [+ 2] GOD ƧAVE HIƧ CHVRCH 1609.

For Stamps see *Plate XXIV.* and page 52.

There is a very uncomplimentary notice of these bells in a description of Bigby church in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, Vol. LXIX., page 377, (1799). It is as follows :—

> There are three bells in the steeple; but, surely, the jarring dissonance of ill-according sounds never "grated harsher musick" than they; and to this it is most probably owing that they exist at all, else frequent use must long ere this time have levelled their mouldering timber with the dust.

These timbers are probably (says Mr. Fowler, who ascended this tower in 1865), coeval with the bells of 1680 at least, and are now in no better condition.

BILLINGBOROUGH.

S. Andrew. 5 Bells.

1. CAMPANAM ⁝ AUDITE ⁝ VOCO ⁝ VOS ⁝ AD ⁝ SACRA ⁝ VENITE ⁝ 1717.
(Diam. 27¼ in.)
2. NON ⁝ CLAMOR ⁝ SED ⁝ AMOR ⁝ CANTAT ⁝ IN ⁝ AURE ⁝ DEI ⁝ 1717.
(Diam. 29 in.)
3. SANCTE ⁝ PARENS ⁝ MEA ⁝ VIS ⁝ MEA ⁝ SOLA ⁝ POTENTIA ⁝ ADESTO ⁝ HEN. PENN. FVSO.
(Diam. 30½ in.)
4. PRÆSIDIO ⁝ SEMPER ⁝ TE ⁝ CELEBRAI ⁝ SONO ⁝ JOSEPH BARTON CH: W. 1717.
(Diam. 33 in.)
5. VIVOS ⁝ VOCO ⁝ FESTA ⁝ DECORO ⁝ DEFUNCTOS ⁝ PLORO ⁝ ROB. KELHAM VICAR.
(Diam. 37 in.)

The inscription on the 4th bell is apparently wrong somehow.

In 1565-6 the Churchwardens reported that "a sanctus bell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been "sold to Roberte Buckeberie," and that "ij handbelles" then remained "wch we haive to make awaie and breake afore Easter nexte."*

The Rev. Robert Kellam (see 5th bell), who was Vicar of Billingborough, Threckingham, and Walcot for 50 years, died in 1752, aged 75 years.

BILLINGHAY.

S. Michael. 3 Bells.

1. OSBORN AND DOBSON FOUNDERS 1805.
(Diam. 26 in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 49.

2. OSBORN AND DOBSON FOUNDERS DOWNHAM NORFOLK 1805.

(Diam. 28 in.)

3. REV^D W^M BROADBELT CURATE, ANTHONY RADFORD CHURCHW^DN 1805.

(Diam. 36 in.)

On the west beam of the bellframe is incised I C 1733
S. G.

BILSBY.

HOLY TRINITY. 1 BELL.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 27 in.)

BINBROOK.

S. MARY. 3 BELLS AND A PRIEST'S BELL.

1, 2. 1803.

(Diams: 32½; 35 in.)

3. LUKE BLAND CHURCHWARDEN 1803. JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON FOUNDER.

(Diam. 39 in.)

Priest's Bell:—

R ♧ B
W

(Diam. 13 in.)

In 1553 there were at "Bynbroke Marye" "iij gret belles j santus bell."*

The small Priest's bell, which came from the ruined church of S. Gabriel, now lies in the vault below this church.

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

BINBROOK.

The ancient church of S. Gabriel formerly standing in this parish, but now demolished, possessed, in 1553, "iij^es gret belles j sanctus bell." What became of the great bells cannot now be told: the small one was taken to the parish church of S. Mary, where it now lies in the vault. [See Binbrook S. Mary above.]

BISCATHORPE.

S. HELEN. 1 BELL.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 16 in.)

This bell was new when the church was rebuilt about the year 1850.

BITCHFIELD.

S. MARY MAGDALEN. 3 BELLS.

1. [+ 96] Sancte Gabriel Ora Pro Nobis
(Diam. $31\frac{3}{4}$ in.)
2. [+ 93 □ 91] NOMEN CAMPANA
(Diam. $35\frac{1}{2}$ in.)
3. [+ 2] ИОИ [□ 5] CLAMOR [□ 5] SED [□ 5] AMOR [□ 5] CAИTAT [□ 5] IИ AVRE [□ 5] DEI 1619.
(Diam. $36\frac{3}{4}$ in.)

For Stamps see pages 89, 88, 87, 52, and 53. The inscription on the 2nd bell is incomplete.

In 1565-6 the Churchwardens reported that "a sacring bell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold by them after being broken in pieces and defaced.*

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 48.

The Churchwardens' Accounts contain many entries for new ropes and trifling repairs: also:—

1750. for a new Boldrick for the Little Bell ..... 0 . 1 . 0
1753. Octr ye 8 Paid for help & spent when the second Bell was hung ..... 0 . 1 . 8

BLANKNEY.

S. Oswald. 5 Bells.

1—3. T. Mears of London Fecit 1819.
(Diams. 28½, 31, 33 in.)

4, 5. T. Mears of London Fecit 1819 Rev^D Edward Chaplin Rector James Greenham Churchwarden.
(Diams. 34, 37½ in.)

A small field was left to the parish by a lady who, having lost her way on Lincoln Heath regained it by the guidance afforded by the sound of one of the Blankney bells, on condition that the bell should be rung every evening at 8 o'clock.*

BLOXHOLM.

S. Mary the Virgin. 2 Bells.

1, 2. Blank.
(Diams. 21, 24 in.)

BLYBOROUGH.

S. Alkmond. 1 Bell and a Priest's Bell.

1. JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER BARTON 1796.
(Diam. 30 in.)

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* Bishop Trollope on *Lincoln Heath and its Historical Associations.*

Priest's Bell :—

Blank.

(Diam. $11\frac{1}{4}$ in.)

A chest full of loose papers belonging to the parish, kindly examined for me by the Rev. Reginald H. C. Fitz-Herbert, yields the following entries respecting the above bell cast in 1796 :—

		£.	s.	d.
1796.	To Harrison for casting the Bell	16	18	3
	To Robt Lidgit for Carrying and fetching the Bell	1	11	6
	Borrowing Wm Child's Cart for the Bell	0	5	0
	Spent on Acct of Bell	0	10	8
1827.	Oct. Bell frame repairing	0	15	0
1831.	Nov. Bell ropes	0	6	0
1835.	Feb. 17. 4 Winders Tellis work for the Bell Chaimber	1	10	0

The Priest's bell is not now used in any way: neither has it a wheel.

BLYTON.

S. Martin. 3 Bells.

1. Celorum xte placeat tibi rex sonus iste 1607. [□ 107.]
(Diam. 33 in.)
2. IH'S NAZARENVS REX IVDEORVM 1672 [□ 157.]
(Diam. 36 in. ; canons broken.)
3. DANIEL HEDDERLY ƆAST ME WILL : DUCKLE : JOHN CHAPMAN C : W : 1727.
(Diam. 39 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XV.* and *XXIII.*, and for the word "Celorum" on the 1st bell see fig. 174 on *Plate XXVI.*

In 1553 there were " iij great belles one santus bell."*

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$ P. R. Off.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "a sacringe bell" which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time had been "defacid," and that "one handbell" then remained.*

BOLINGBROKE.

SS. PETER AND PAUL. 1 BELL.

1. I sweetly toling men do call to taste on meats that feeds the soole [◻ 113] 1604.
   AS. AP. TC. IA. C.W. IS. TO. W.W
   (Diam. 42 in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XVI.*

In 1553 there were here "iij [?] great belles one sanctus bell."†

BOLINGBROKE NEW.

S. PETER. 1 BELL.

This modern church—built in 1854—has only one bell, "utterly unworthy"—says the vicar "of being a Church Bell."

BONBY.

S. ANDREW. 3 BELLS.

1. [+ 64] Sancta iounis ora pro nobis [▽ 65.]
   (Diam. 27 in.)
2. DANIEL HEDDERLY 1724.
   (Diam. 30½ in.)
3. WILLIAM SMITH. SOLI DEO GLOREA. 1720.
   (Diam. 33½ in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 52. † *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods*, $\frac{3}{54}$, P. R. Off.

For Stamps see *Plate VIII.*

In 1566 the churchwardens of "Bomnbie" reported that "one sacring bell," which had belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, still remained.*

BOOTHBY GRAFFOE.

S. ANDREW. 3 BELLS.

1. [+ 119] In honore Sci Cuthberti.
(Diam. 28 in.)

2. [+ 140] S [+ 140] [+ 140] [□ 107.] [▽ 127.]
(Diam. 32 in.)

3. Celorum xte placeat tibi rex sonus iste
[▽ 127.]
(Diam. 34 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XVIII.*, page 118, *Plate XV.* and p. 114.

BOOTHBY PAGNELL.

S. ANDREW. 3 BELLS.

1. [+ 123] SANCTI ANDREE [▽ 119.]
(Diam. 26¾ in.)

2. [+ 2] OMNIA [□ 5] FIANT [□ 5] AD [□ 5] GLORIAM [□ 5] DEI [□ 5] 1606 [□ 5.]
(Diam. 29½ in.)

3. [+ 111] IHESVS BE OVR SPEDE 1594 [□ 114] [□ 113.]
(Diam. 31 in.)

For Stamps see page 111, *Plate XVIII*, pages 52 and 53 and *Plates XVI.* and *XVII.*

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 53.

In 1565-6 the Churchwardens reported that "a hand bell and a sacring bell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been "broken and sold to a brazier at Grantha' faire Anno dni 1563."*

BOSTON.

S. Botolph. 8 Bells and 36 Carillon Bells.

1, 2. H. INGRAM, G. BYRON W. BOWSFIELD CHWARDENS :· 1785 T. OSBORN FECIT : :
(Diams. 32, 33½ in.)

3. 1772.
(Diam. 34¾ in.)

4. JOHN GAMBLE EDWARD BELL JOHN JESSOP CHURCHWARDENS 1710.
(Diam. 36¼ in.)

5. ALL GLORY BEE TO GOD ON HIGH [□ 157] 1657.
(Diam. 38¾ in.: canons broken off.)

6. ROBT WILBY : MAYOR THOS HARDWICK : SAMLL OBBINSON & JNO SCRIMSHER : C WS JNO CALTHROP : VICAR JNO LINTON : LECTURER THOS EAYRE PYROTECHNVS, DE, KETTERING, FECIT 1758.
(Diam. 41¾ in.: no canons.)

7. John Calthrop Vicar; Thomas Cheyney John Lowe John Betts Church Wardens 1772.
(Diam. 45½ in.: no canons.)

8. 1867.
G. B. BLENKIN, M.A. VICAR. W. GEE, J. E. RIDLINGTON, R. M. DINGWALL, CHURCHWARDENS. BLESSED IS THE PEOPLE THAT KNOUW THE JOUFUL SOUND.

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 53.

ME FUDIT
A. L. J. VANAERSCHODT MAJOR, SUCCESSOR
A. L. VANDENGHEYN LOVANII MDCCCLXVII.
(Diam. 50⅞ in. : weight 28 cwt. 1 qr. 1¼ lbs.)

Carillon Bells:—

1 to 29. A. L. J. VANAERSCHODT MAJOR SUCCESSOR A. L. VANDENGHEYN ME FUDIT 1867.

30. THIS IS NONE OTHER BUT THE HOUSE OF GOD, AND THIS IS THE GATE OF HEAVEN A. L. J. VANAERSCHODT [&c., as on previous bells.]

31. LET THINE EYES BE OPEN AND LET THINE EARS BE ATTENTIVE UNTO THE PRAYER THAT IS MADE IN THIS PLACE. A. L. J. VANAERSCHODT [&c.]

32. HOLY HOLY HOLY LORD GOD OF HOSTS HEAVEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF THE MAJESTY OF THY GLORY. A. L. J. VANAERSCHODT [&c.]

33. O ALL YE WORKS OF THE LORD, BLESS YE THE LORD, PRAISE HIM AND MAGNIFY HIM FOR EVER. A. L. J. VANAERSCHODT [&c.]

34. GLORY BE TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND ON EARTH PEACE, GOOD WILL TOWARDS MEN. A. L. J. VANAERSCHODT [&c.]

35. THESE CHIMES WERE ERECTED BY PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION, COMMENCED BY W. SIMONDS, ESQ., MAYOR, A.D. 1865, FINISHED 1867. A. L. J. VANAERSCHODT [&c.]

36. G. B. BLENKIN, M.A. VICAR, WILLIAM GEE, J. E. RIDLINGTON, R.M. DINGWALL, CHURCHWARDENS. E. THIRTLE, ORGANIST. E. C. HACKFORD, VERGER. A. L. J. VANAERSCHODT [&c.]

(For Diams., weights, &c. see further on.)

That there were several bells here in the fourteenth century is evident from provisions made for their being rung at the obits of certain members of the Religious Guilds then existing in the town.

It would appear that there was a recasting of the church bells—or some of them—towards the close of that century, for at an annual obit of Frederick Tilney (he entered the Guild of Corpus Christi between 1356 and 1360) and Margery his wife, on the Feast of S. Petronilla, when 20*d*. should have been expended, according to the prescribed form,

for ringing the bells, the following entry was made "per indenture for ringing, 4^{d}, because there was at that time only the bell in the steeple."*

This church was, in pre-Reformation times, rich in church plate and other ornaments. In a list of "Plate Lackinge and solde by the Mayer and buriesses of boston" in 1552 is, what was most probably, a sacring bell, thus described:—"Itm̃ a sylver belle xviij ounces."† In that year there were "fyve great belles in the steple there and one Sanctus belle valued to the somme of one hundred marks safely and surely to be kept to the kynge's majestie use, until his highnes' plesure be further knowen."

By an Indenture, dated the 26th of May in the following year, those bells‡ and a chalice were placed by the Commissioners for Church Goods in the hands of the Churchwardens (see p. 27).

There is no mention in this document of the large clock bell which is known to have existed here forty years later. It probably was considered the property of the Corporation, and so escaped being catalogued by the Commissioners. The Corporation Records refer to this bell under the date 1598, when it was proposed to sell the clock bell and devote the proceeds to the repair of the other bells, but the motion was negatived. Stukeley describes it as having been a "prodigious clock bell which could be heard six or seven miles round, with many old verses round it."§

In 1626 the bells were repaired, as is shown by the Corporation Records.

Prior to 1709 a sixth bell had been added to the ring, for in that year a faculty was obtained to recast the "immense old bell hanging in the tower, which is of little use and imperfect sound and publishing the holy hours imperfectly, and of the metal of the said bell to make three smaller ones. Two of these to be added to the *six* now in the tower, and the third bell to be for the clock to strike upon, and to tell the hour

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* Thompson's *Boston*, pp. 124, 125.

† Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 219.

‡ The turret for the Sanctus bell still exists at the east end of the nave.

§ Stukeley's *Itin.* (Ed. 1714), Vol. I. p. 29.

to the people loudly and clearly, and to place the same on the lantern or highest part of the tower, and suspend the same for the better and more audibly hearing of the sound thereof." The second bell of the six being then cracked was also recast, and the eight bells were first chimed in the steeple on the 17th December, 1710.

The large clock bell, so directed to be melted and recast, weighed above 4000 lbs. The new clock bell substituted for it weighed only 533 lbs. This latter bell is said to have been cracked in 1754; consequently, a few years later—in 1758—a new clock bell was directed to be made, the weight of which was not to exceed 1000 lbs.* This new bell (as is shown by the Vestry Books, which contain a number of resolutions passed relating to it) was cast by Thomas Eayre of Kettering. It was in B Flat, and was inscribed:—

THO^S^ BROTHERTON, LUKE PLUMER AND CHA^S^ GRAVES C. W^S^ : 1759.
WE HAVE NO NOTE OF TIME BUT FROM ITS LOSS.

There were, as companions to it, two bells for "Quarter Jacks" of very rough make, probably cast in the town, and only inscribed with the date 1777. They were made partly from the Market bell which the Corporation gave to the parish in that year, "in order to be added as an additional bell to the Quarters in the Church." The old figures—a man and a woman—which struck the quarters—the "Quarter Jacks"—were sold in 1853.

In 1758 the sixth bell was recast, and the others put into order by Thomas Eayre of Kettering; and, as the inscriptions on the bells show, others were recast as necessity arose. In 1853 the whole were rehung at a cost of £85.†

Before recording the last great work in connection with the bells the chimes claim a brief notice.

Jean Ingelow in a poem called *The High Tide on the Coast of Lincolnshire in* 1571, relates how the bells in the grand old tower of this church rang out the alarm called *The Brides of Enderby*:—

---

* Thompson's *Boston*, p. 189. † Ib. p. 190.

Play uppe, play uppe, O Boston bells !
Ply all your changes, all your swells
Play uppe The Brides of Enderby.
. . . . . .
. . . . . .
They sayde, and why should this thing be ?
What danger lowers by land or sea
They ring the tune of Enderby ?

When chimes were first introduced here is not known (for the above allusion to them was only a poetic fancy, and not founded on fact); they are mentioned in the Corporation records in 1614. In 1732 new chimes were ordered; they struck upon the eight bells, but, becoming out of order, they ceased to play in 1832.*

About the year 1865 a movement was set on foot by W. Simonds, Esq., the then mayor, for providing a new set of chimes on a large scale. Thirty-six carillon bells were ordered from Mons. A. L. J. Van Aerschodt of Lovaine.

At the same time the tenor bell being cracked, it was resolved to have it recast by the same founder. The following extract from the Vestry Book is explanatory:—

Boston, August 1, 1867.

The Vicar and Churchwardens having decided that the Tenor Bell, which has been for several years seriously cracked, should be recast, the same was this day broken up preparatory to being sent to Belgium, for that purpose. The weight of the fragments was taken by the Inspector of Weights and Measures, and was found to be as follows:—twenty hundredweight, two quarters, and twenty two pounds (1 ton. 2 qrs. 22 lbs.) and on the exterior was the following inscription:—

* See Thompson's *Boston*, p. 190.

All men that heare my movrnefull sovnd
Repent before yov lie in grovnd 1657.

James Preston,
Anthony Butler,
John Letsham, Wardens.

The contractor for the recasting is Mons. A. L. J. Van Aerschodt, Aine, Rue de Namur, Lovaine, Belgium.

G. B. Blenkin, M.A., Vicar.

The diameter of this bell was 49¼ inches. The treble bell was at the same time taken down, and it was sent to Louvaine to secure accuracy in the tone of the Carillon Bells and of the new Tenor.

When the Carillon bells arrived from Belgium they were hung in the following manner :—

	1st Bay.	2nd Bay.	3rd Bay.	4th Bay.
Top Tier ...	3 Bells	3 Bells	3 Bells	3 Bells
Second Tier...	2 Bells	2 Bells	2 Bells	2 Bells
Third Tier ...	2 Bells	2 Bells	2 Bells	2 Bells
Fourth Tier...	1 Bell	1 Bell	1 Bell	1 Bell
Bottom Tier...	1 Bell	1 Bell	1 Bell	1 Bell

The tone, diameter, and weight of each bell is as under :—

No.	Tone.	Diameter of mouth in inches	Weight. cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	No.	Tone.	Diameter of mouth in inches	Weight. cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
1.	E flat	6⅞	0	0	19¾	7.	A	7⅝	0	0	20¼
2.	D	7	0	0	18½	8.	A flat	7¾	0	0	17¾
3.	D flat	7	0	0	18	9.	G	8⅛	0	0	19¼
4.	C	7¼	0	0	19½	10.	G flat	8¾	0	0	25½
5.	B	7⅜	0	0	20¼	11.	F	8½	0	0	21½
6.	B flat	7⅝	0	0	20¾	12.	E	8⅞	0	0	24½

No.	Tone.	Diameter of mouth in inches	Weight. cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
13.	E flat	$9\frac{3}{8}$	0	0	$26\frac{1}{4}$
14.	D	$9\frac{5}{8}$	0	1	2
15.	D flat	$10\frac{1}{2}$	0	1	10
16.	C	$10\frac{3}{4}$	0	1	$12\frac{1}{4}$
17.	B	$10\frac{3}{4}$	0	1	13
18.	B flat	$11\frac{1}{8}$	0	1	$15\frac{1}{4}$
19.	A	$11\frac{1}{4}$	0	1	19
20.	A flat	$11\frac{5}{8}$	0	1	20
21.	G	$12\frac{1}{4}$	0	1	$26\frac{1}{2}$
22.	G flat	$12\frac{3}{4}$	0	1	26
23.	F	$12\frac{1}{2}$	0	1	27
24.	E	14	0	2	$18\frac{1}{2}$
25.	E flat	$14\frac{1}{2}$	0	3	$1\frac{1}{2}$
26.	D	$14\frac{7}{8}$	0	3	7
27.	D flat	$16\frac{1}{8}$	0	3	$14\frac{1}{2}$
28.	C	$16\frac{7}{8}$	1	0	$3\frac{1}{2}$
29.	B	$18\frac{3}{8}$	1	1	$9\frac{1}{2}$
30.	B flat	$18\frac{5}{8}$	1	1	$26\frac{1}{2}$
31.	A	$19\frac{1}{4}$	1	1	24
32.	A flat	21	1	3	17
33.	G	22	2	0	24
34.	G flat	$22\frac{3}{4}$	2	1	$18\frac{1}{2}$
35.	F	$24\frac{1}{2}$	3	2	$0\frac{1}{4}$
36.	E	$24\frac{5}{8}$	2	3	$12\frac{3}{4}$
	NEW TENOR BELL.				
	E flat	$50\frac{7}{8}$	28	1	$1\frac{1}{4}$

Four of these bells only are "maidens:" the lowest is a semitone above the treble of the ring of eight large bells. The new Tenor has been rather over-flattened by chipping.

The erection of the new chimes was entrusted to Messrs. Gillett and Bland of Croydon, who provided the first of their now well-known machines, and Dr. Clark of Finmere House, Oxfordshire, superintended the work. The four musical barrels were constructed to play the following twenty-eight tunes on the forty-four bells:—

*Vesper Hymn.
O Thou that Tellest.—*Handel.*
Cujus Animam.—*Rossini.*
The Heavens are Telling.
—*Haydn.*
Emperor's Hymn.
Caller Herrin.—*Gow.*
*The Harmonious Blacksmith.
Most beautiful appear.
—*Haydn.*
He watching over Israel.
—*Mendelssohn.*
If with all your Hearts.
—*Mendelssohn.*
*Auld Lang Syne.
*The Last Rose of Summer.
*Home, Sweet Home.
*With Verdure Clad.—*Haydn.*
*Haydn's Hymn.
The Angelus, from "Faust."

The Portuguese Hymn.
The Sicilian Mariner's Hymn.
Hope told a flattering Tale.
The Harp that once in Tara's Halls.
Rule Britannia.
Brides of Enderby.
See the Conquering Hero comes.
Blue Bells of Scotland.
Sweet Jenny Jones.
Irish Melody.
Love's Young Dream.
Huntsman's Chorus.

Those tunes only are now played which are marked with an asterisk.

It may be mentioned that the frame of the machine (which is of cast iron) weighs 9 cwt.; the motive power is given by cast iron weights weighing 8 cwt.; the four musical barrels are each pricked with about 3000 brass pins, one-sixteenth of an inch square. They were arranged to play one tune every hour, and a fresh tune every day. The 132 cast iron hammer heads for striking the bells weigh 8 cwt. 2 qrs., and the weight of the whole machine is over three tons.

The clock strikes on the tenor bell; and the quarter chimes, which are after the Cambridge model, are on bells 35, 36, 37, and 40. Bell 40 seems too sharp in the quarter changes, but sounds fairly well in peal.

The total cost of the whole work amounted to about £1638.

Having said that Jean Ingelow's mention of the chimes in her poem had no foundation in fact, it may be a cause of surprise to find the name of the tune she mentions, "The Brides of Enderby," in the list for the new chimes. Its presence there is well explained by a gentleman writing from Boston in *Notes and Queries* (6th S. II. p. 435):—"Some of the most active promoters of the new chimes, after receiving Miss Ingelow's answer [saying there was no foundation in fact for her poetic fancy], wrote to 'Claribel,' who lived at Louth, and asked her to compose a tune to be called 'The Brides of Enderby.' She objected—very wisely as I think. A local music-master was next applied to. He composed one, but on trial it was fortunately found so florid, and otherwise unsuitable to the carillons, that after a short trial it was very properly abandoned. If this tune had been adopted, we should have been in the peculiar position of that keeper of a museum who showed

the sword with which Balaam tried to kill the ass, and when he was told Balaam never had a sword, but only wished for one, he replied 'Well, this is the very sword he wished for.' So we should have been obliged to explain to strangers that the tune they heard was not the one rung in the great flood, but the very tune which would have been rung if the ringers had known it."

The new bells which at first were considered very satisfactory and were highly eulogised, have not sustained their first reputation—a more matured criticism now pronounces them to be very unsatisfactory.

Since Messrs. Gillett and Bland erected the chiming machine—they were not in any way responsible for the bells—they have much improved and simplified their system which has now become very perfect.

After the above works were completed the old clock bell cast in 1759 and the "Quarter Jacks" (dated 1777) were sent to Messrs. Mears' foundry, Whitechapel, London, to be broken up. The following particulars were preserved:—

Bell.	Diameter.	Estimated Weight.			Weight Actually Ascertained		
		cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
1st "Jack"	24 in.	2	3	8	2	3	14
2nd "Jack"	26 in.	4	0	0	3	1	11
Old Clock Bell	36½ in.	9	0	2	10	2	22

The outline of a handbell is chiselled on each of the two middle pillars of the north aisle of the church about five feet from the floor. Whether the ringers had formerly a seat between these two pillars or not is a matter of conjecture.

Sir Gilbert Scott pointed out, in his Report on the state of the church, that the bells were originally rung from the little stone galleries which run round the second story of the tower.

All inscriptions on the walls relating to the bells were cleared away thirty years ago, but the ringers have a tradition that a Peal of "Grandsire Triples" was rung at the Declaration of Peace after the Battle of Waterloo, and that Boston being the only town in England where a full peal was rung on that day, the ringers were in consequence invited to London and fêted.

The Rev. John Calthrop, M.A., (see 6th and 7th bells) was elected Vicar 11th April, 1746. He died in August, 1785, and was buried at Gosberton. The present Vicar (see 8th and 36th carillon bell) was instituted in 1850.*

BOSTON.

S. James. 3 Bells.

Here are three Bells from the foundry of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, Whitechapel, London, in 1868:—

		cwt.	qr.	lb.			
1.	Weight	2	1	8	Diam.	$21\frac{3}{8}$ in.	note A.
2.	,,	2	3	8	,,	$23\frac{1}{2}$ in.	,, G.
3.	,,	3	1	11	,,	$25\frac{3}{4}$ in.	,, F.

BOSTON.

The Chapel of Ease in the High Street erected in 1820, and the Chapel at Hill-Dike opened in 1857, have each a small modern bell.

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* For a portion of the above information about the Boston bells I am much indebted to the Rev. J. J. Raven, D.D., who obtained some of it (as he informs me) through the intelligent assistance of Mr. Hackford, verger of the church.

BOTTESFORD.

HOLY TRINITY. 3 BELLS.

1. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1765. THE REVD EDWD BRISTOW VICER WM SOWASBY & THOS CAMBELL CH. WARDENS.
2. B. JOHNSON. W. PLOMER CH. WARDENS 1712.
3. GOD SAVE QVEEN ANN THO. HUNT CHVRCHWARDENS 1710 [O7.]

For Stamp see page 59.

In 1553 there were at "Botteswort'" "iij Gret belles and on̄ sanctus belle."*

An interesting specimen of a Sacring bell was found in this church in August, 1870 (see p. 200).

The Rev. Edward Bristow signs the Register for the last time in 1768.

BOULTHAM.

S. HELEN. 1 BELL.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 14 in.)

BOURN.

SS. PETER AND PAUL. 6 BELLS AND A PRIEST'S BELL.

1. WILLIAM DOD VICAR MDCCXXVIIII SURGE AGE.
(Diam. 30 in.)
2. LAUDO ⁝ DEUM ⁝ VERUM ⁝·⁝ ⁝·⁝ MDCCXXVIIII.
(Diam. 31¼ in.)

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods Lincs.* $\frac{3}{53}$ P. R. Off.

3. ⁝·⁝ ET ⁝ CLAMOR AD ⁝ CŒLOS ⁝ HENRICVS ⁝ PENN ⁝ FVSOR ⁝ 1729.

(Diam. $32\frac{5}{8}$ in.)

4. UT ⁝ MUNDUS ⁝ SIC ⁝ NOS ⁝ NUNC ⁝ LÆTITIAM ⁝ NUNC ⁝ DOLOREM ⁝ 1729.

(Diam. 36 in.)

5. PLEBEM ⁝ VOCO ⁝ CONGREGO ⁝ CLERUM ⁝ HENRICUS ⁝ PENN ⁝ FUSOR ⁝ 1729.

(Diam. $38\frac{1}{2}$ in.)

6. DEFUNCTOS ⁝ PLANGO ⁝ VIVOS ⁝ MONEO ⁝ JOHN HARDWICKE ⁝ LYON ⁝ FALKNER ⁝ JAMES ⁝ LEY ⁝ CHURCHWARDENS 1729.

(Diam. $42\frac{3}{4}$ in.; all bells turned.)

Priest's Bell :—

1635.

(Diam. $18\frac{1}{4}$ in.)

On the wheel of the 3rd bell is :—

These bells rehung in July 1852.

The Priest's bell was cast by Norris of Stamford; it has a wheel, stay, and slide, like the large bells.

BRACEBOROUGH.

S. Margaret. 3 Bells.

1. JOHN TAYLOR FOUNDER LOUGHBOROUGH : 1845.

(Diam. $31\frac{7}{8}$ in.)

2. J : TAYLOR FOUNDER LOUGHBOROUGH 1845.

(Diam. 35 in.)

3. REV^ND GEORGE ROGERS RECTOR : JAMES FRANCIS CHURCHWARDEN 1845. J : TAYLOR FOUNDER LOUGHBOROUGH.

(Diam. $38\frac{1}{2}$ in.: Key G.)

Prior to 1845 there were only two bells.

BRACEBRIDGE.

ALL SAINTS. 1 BELL AND A PRIEST'S BELL.

1. [+ 104] OMNIS ·:· SPIRITVS ·:· LAVDET ·:· DOMINVM
1583 R.G.

(Diam. 26¾ in.)

Priest's Bell :—

Blank.

(Diam. 12 in.: not used.)

For Stamp see page 101.

BRACEBY.

S. MARGARET. 1 BELL.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 24 in.)

BRADLEY.

S. GEORGE. 1 BELL.

1. S . W
W
1833

(Diam. 16 in.)

In 1553 there were here "iij gret belles and one Sanctus bell."*

The ancient cage for these three bells still remains, but sometime prior to 1833, two bells had disappeared: the remaining bell was cracked by three men endeavouring to imitate a peal upon it with three hammers on the occasion of the wedding of a farmer named Nicholson. It was then melted down and recast by a blacksmith of Waltham (a

* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

neighbouring village) named Samuel White, who placed upon it his own initials, and that of his dwelling place.

BRANDON.

This Chapel-of-Ease to Hough-on-the-Hill, built in 1872, has one small bell.

BRANSTON.

All Saints. 4 Bells.

1. [+ 111] GOD SAVE OVR QVEENE
1595 [□ 113.]
(Diam. 31 in.)

2. [+ 111] GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH
1595 [□ 113.]
(Diam. 34 in.)

3. GABRIEL [▽ 124.]
(Diam. 38 in.)

4. [+ 116] IHESVS BE OVR SPEDE
1595.
(Diam. 39 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XVI.*, and pages 111 and 107.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "two hand belles" and "a sac'ing bell" which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time had been sold "séns the last visitacon."*

BRATOFT.

SS. Peter and Paul. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. [+ 31 ▽ 27] Sancte Nicolai Ora Pro Nobis [▽ 29.]
(Diam. 26½ in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 56.

2. [+ 31 ▽ 27] Sancte Botolfe Ora Pro Nobis [▽ 29.]
(Diam. 30 in.)

3. [+ 66] Sancta petre Ora prO nObiS [▽ 68.]
(Diam. 32¼ in.)

Priest's Bell:—

Blank.
(Diam. 10¾ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates III.* and *VIII.*

BRATTLEBY.

S. Cuthbert. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 120] MARIA [▽ 119.]
2. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH.
3. [+ 120 ▽ 119] KATARINA

For Stamps see *Plate XVIII.*

BRAUNCEWELL.

All Saints. 1 Bell.

1. [○ 7.]
(Diam. 14¼ in.)

For Stamp see page 59.

BRIGG.

S. Mary. 8 Bells.

1. 2. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1878.
(1. Diam. 24¾ in. weight 4 cwt. 0 qr. 8 lb. note A.
2. ,, 25 in. ,, 4 ,, 0 ,, 8 ,, ,, G sharp.)

3—7. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1875.

(3.	Diam.	26½	in.:	weight	4	cwt.	0	qr.	21	lbs.	note F sharp.
4.	,,	27½	in.	,,	4	,,	1	,,	21	,,	,, E.
5.	,,	29	in.	,,	4	,,	3	,,	21	,,	,, D.
6.	,,	30½	in.	,,	5	,,	2	,,	1	,,	,, C sharp.
7.	,,	33	in.	,,	6	,,	2	,,	9	,,	,, B.)

8. FOR THE HONOUR OF GOD AND USE OF THIS CHURCH THESE BELLS WERE ERECTED A.D. 1875. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON. (Diam. 36 in.: weight 8 cwt. 2 qrs. 7 lbs.: note A.)

Prior to 1876 there was one bell only.

Six bells of the present ring of eight arrived here from the London foundry on the 22nd February, 1876, and were received with great rejoicing. A procession was formed at the Railway Station, the Church choir taking the lead, followed by the band of the 1st Lincolnshire Light Horse in full dress uniform; next came the clergy, churchwardens, and gentry, of Brigg and neighbourhood; then the carriage containing the bells drawn by twelve highly caparisoned horses, the bells also, and carriage, being decorated; next came the school children of the town including those of the workhouse. The procession paraded the town, and the inhabitants were highly pleased. The bells were received at the church tower by the clergy and choir in surplices, and with prayer and praise solemnly dedicated to the service of Almighty God, after which the vicar—The Rev. W. J. Wylie—addressed a crowd of spectators. He hoped the bells would answer the purpose for which they were intended, calling the people together to worship God in His house, and that the people would accept the invitation the bells gave them. The bells having been hung by Mr. H. Boswell were ready the first week in Lent, but that being a season in which the church wishes her bells to be silent, they were not formally opened until Tuesday in Easter week. On that day an early peal was rung inviting the parishioners to an 8 o'clock Celebration of the Holy Communion. At 10.30 a company of Ringers from S. Peter's parish church, Sheffield,

rang a touch before Divine Service at 11.30. In the afternoon the Sheffield ringers rang touches. In the evening another service was held when an appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Gatty, Vicar of Ecclesfield.*

On 11th October, 1878, the present 1st and 2nd bells were added, making a ring of eight.

The old single bell was sold for £9. 8*s.* 11*d.*

The six new bells cast in 1875 cost £383. 3s. 6*d.*

The two new ones cast in 1878 cost £108. 19s. 0*d.*

BRIGSLEY.

S. Helen. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 165] IF GOD BE WITH VS HO CAN BE 1674 W S.
2. [+ 140] S [+ 140.] S
3. [+ 162] Memento Mori WS A.D. 1682.

For Stamps see *Plate XXIV.* and page 118.

In 1553 there were at "Beygsley" "iij grete belles j santus bell."†

The omission of the 1st letter of the relative pronoun on the 1st bell is in accordance with the local pronunciation. The same error occurs on a bell at Newton-on-Trent: it is also found on gravestones.

The 2nd bell is cracked, and the belfry is in too dangerous a state to allow of the diameters being taken.

BRINKHILL.

S. Philip. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 12 in.)

---

* From *Church Bells* Newspaper, 29th April, 1876. † *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

In 1552, when an Inventory of the Church Goods belonging to "Brinkeill in the parties of Linsie" was drawn up with their values, the following entries were made relating to the bells:—

Itm̃ ij bells in the stepill ..... iiij*li.* vj*s.* viij*d.*
Itm̃ one sacre bell ..... ij*d.*
Itm̃ one sanctus bell ..... iij*s.* iiij*d.**

BROCKLESBY.

All Saints. 1 Bell.

Here is a small bell from the foundry of Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough.

BROTHERTOFT.

— ? 1 Bell.

There is a single modern small bell in a turret.

BROUGHTON.

S. Mary. 5 Bells.

1. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1867.
   (Diam. 27½ in.; weight 4 cwt. 2 qrs. 26 lbs.)
2. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1867. THIS PEAL OF 5 BELLS ERECTED BY SUBSCRIPTION 1867.
   (Diam. 29 in.; weight 5 cwt. 2 qrs. 3 lbs.)
3. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1867. THOMAS BOOTH WRIGHT RECTOR.
   JAMES CAMPBELL } Churchwardens 1867.
   GEORGE MARSHALL }
   (Diam. 30 in.; weight 5 cwt. 3 qrs. 10 lbs.)

* *Land Revenue Records, Church Goods,* Bundle 1392, File 78, P. R. Off.

4. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1867.
   CUM VOCO AD TEMPLUM VENITE W.S. 1669 RE-CAST 1867.
   (Diam. 33 in.; weight 7 cwt. 0 qr. 7 lbs.)
5. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1867.
   IN · MULTIS · ANNIS · RESONET · CAMPANA · IOHĪS.
   (Diam. 36 in.; weight 8 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lbs. note A $\frac{1}{8}$ sharp.)

In 1553 there were here "ij gret belles one saunct bell."*

In 1566 the Churchwardens reported that "a hand bell and a litell brass bell," which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold.†

Prior to 1867 there were, as in 1553, two bells only—the inscriptions on which are preserved on the 4th and 5th bells of the present ring—the 1st was cracked.

There is a tradition current at Appleby that the people there stole the tenor bell now hanging in their church from their neighbours here. There was, however, clearly no loss of a bell between 1553 and 1867; so the character of the Appleby folk for honesty need no longer be impugned!

BROUGHTON BRANT.

S. Helen. 6 Bells.

1. IF YOU HAVE A JUDICIOUS EAR YOU'LL OWN MY VOICE IS SWEET AND CLEAR.
2. T. OSBORN FECIT DOWNHAM NORFOLK 1792 ⁝:·
3. BEG YE OF GOD YOUR SOUL TO SAVE BEFORE WE CALL YOU TO THE GRAVE. T. OSBORN FOUNDER 1792 ⁝
4. OUR VOICES SHALL WITH JOYFUL SOUND MAKE HILLS AND VALLEYS ECHO ROUND ⁝

---

* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 55.

5. IN WEDLOCK'S BAND ALL YE WHO JOIN WITH HANDS YOUR HEARTS UNITE SO SHALL OUR TUNEFULL TONGUES COMBINE TO LAUD THE NUPTUAL RITE . . . T. OSBORN FECIT 1792 ⁝:·
6. JAMES ANDREW MILNE RECTOR JOHN AULSBROOK CHURCHWARDEN. T. OSBORN FOUNDER DOWNHAM 1792.

[*And incised* :—]

SIR RICH^D SUTTON BAR^T PATRON.

(Weight 15 cwt.) Remodelled

The Rev. James Andrew Milne, LL.D. (see 6th bell), of Christ Church College, Cambridge, who was Rector of Shelton, Notts, as well as of Brant Broughton, died, at Newark-on-Trent, on the 25th of February, 1814, in the 82nd year of his age. He was buried in his family vault in Newark Church on the 7th of March.

Sir Richard Sutton, Bart. (6th bell), was born 31st July, 1733; M.P. and Under Secretary of State, 1766—1772; created a baronet 25th September, 1772; died 1802.

BROXHOLME.

ALL SAINTS. 1 BELL.

The single bell here is in so difficult a position for inspection that I am reluctantly obliged to say "inaccessible."

BUCKNALL.

S. MARGARET. 1 BELL.

1. [□ 107] [▽ 127] [+ 140] [+ 140] [+ 140] [+ 140.]

(Diam. 26 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XV.* and pages 114 and 118.

In 1553 Bucknall possessed "one greate belle & one sanct' bell."*

The whole framework is in a very rotten condition; on one of the beams is carved the date 1666. There is a tradition in the village that there were formerly two bells, one of which (probably the Sanctus bell of 1553) was sold by a former churchwarden.

BURGH.

S. PETER. 6 BELLS AND A PRIEST'S BELL.

1. JOHN DAWSON CHURCHWARDEN GAVE THIS BELL TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND FOR THE USE OF HIS CHURCH. O COME LET US SING UNTO THE LORD. J. TAYLOR & CO. FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1868.
   (Diam. 33½ in.)
2. WE PRAISE THEE O GOD. JOHN TAYLOR & CO. FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1868.
   (Diam. 35½ in.)
3. WILLIAM HARRISON FOUNDER BARTON 1820.
   (Diam. 38 in.)
4. I sweetly toling men do call to taste on meats that feeds the soble 1616 [□ 113.]
   (Diam. 40 in.)
5. Sacra Trinitate Fiat Hec Campana Beata 1589 [▽ 131.]
   IHON KYME [H D 149 and 150.]
   VVILLIAM [+ 116] PAVLIN [+ 116] CHIMED [+ 116] SO [+ 116] VVELL [+ 116] HE [+ 116] PAYD [+ 116] FOR [+ 116] CASTING [+ 116] OF [+ 116] THIS [+ 116] BELL
   (Diam. 44¾ in.)

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

6. [+ 116] BEARNE OF IOHN HOLDEN ALL GOOD XPIAN PEOPLE WHO GAVE THIS BEL TO GRACE THIS CHURCH AND STEEPLE 1616 [□ 113.]

(Diam. 48 in.)

Priest's Bell on roof of Tower:—

JESUS BE OUR SPEEDE 1663.

(Diam. 19¾ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XVI.* and *XIX.*: pages 123 and 107.

Prior to 1868 there were only five bells: in that year the then treble bell which had no inscription (and was said to have been brought from Wainfleet All Saints), was recast, and a new treble given, so making the present ring of six.

John Kyme (see 5th bell, which is one of the most elaborately ornamented in the county) was probably a member of the ancient family of Kyme of Lincolnshire. In 1554 John Kyme Gentleman (perhaps the father of the man whose name is on the bell) died seized of lands in Wainfleet S. Mary and Friskney.

For some account of the Holden family see Oldfield's *Wainfleet*, page 96. John Holden, the donor of the tenor bell, appears to have also given "a very richly carved" pulpit to the church, which was inscribed "1623 John Houlden."*

A piece of land in this parish, called Bell-string Acre, was left (at what time is not known) by the captain of a vessel to provide a silken rope wherewith to ring the tenor bell; he having lost his reckoning off this coast on a dark night, and being warned of his dangerous proximity to the shore, by the sound of that bell ringing the Curfew. The land is now worth £4. a year, and the money goes to the ringers' fund.

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* Saunders' *Hist. Lincs.* II. p. 129.

The Bell frame is inscribed :—

Edwd Doughty Blacksmith 1820 W. Shaw S. Greenfield Workmen 1820.

BURGH-ON-BAIN.

S. Helen. 1 Bell.

1. LOVE GOD FOR EVER 1637.
(Diam. 28 in.)

BURRINGHAM.

S. John Baptist. 1 Bell.

This modern church, built in 1857, has only one small bell.

BURTON-BY-LINCOLN.

S. Vincent. 1 Bell.

1. [▽ 137] IN NOĪE IH̄S MARIA
(Diam. 33½ in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XX*.

BURTON COGGLES.

S. Thomas of Canterbury. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 2] OMИIA FIAИT AD GLORIAM DEI. THOMAƧ ИORRIƧ CAƧT ME 1628.
(Diam. 30¼ in.)
2. [+ 2] THOMAS NORRIS MADE MEE 1660.
(Diam. 33¼ in.)

3. [+ 107] SANCTA MARIA ORA PRO NOBIS

[▽ 127]

(Diam. 36¼ in.)

For Stamps see page 52, *Plate XV.*, and page 114.

In 1565-6 the churchwardens reported that "Itm̃ ij handbelles," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been "broken and solde to Johnne nixe and Thomas Allaine of the same Toune Ano 1565;" and that "one sacring bell—willm̃ Eland had and hong it by his horse eare a long tyme but nowe yt is broken."*

BURTON GATE.

S. Helen. 3 Bells.

1. PATENT N° 4238 NAYLOR VICKERS & Co SHEFFIELD, 1865. CAST STEEL.
2. (The same, No. 4230.)
3. (The same, No. 4242.)

BURTON PEDWARDINE.

S. Andrew. 1 Bell.

1. J. TAYLOR & CO. LOUGHBOROUGH 1870.

(Diam. 16½ in.)

Prior to 1801, when the steeple fell, there were three bells, which are said to have been inscribed thus:—

1. Cum voco ad ecclesiam venite 1604.
2. W. Eden C. W. T. N. cast me 1591. [? 1671]
3. M. Collingwood. Tobie Norris cast me 1671.

---

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 50.

There is a tradition that the 2nd and 3rd of these bells were removed to Scredington in 1802, but an inspection of the bells now there does not confirm this rumour.

BURTON-ON-STATHER.

S. Andrew. 3 Bells.

1. [□ 141 □ 142 □ 144] d c B A b a [□ 145] b G f
(Diam. 30 in.)

2. IESVS BE OVR SPEDE 1622 [▽ 156.]
R G I W
(Diam. 33 in.)

3. [+ 1] IHESVS BE OVR SPEED 1612.
(Diam. 35½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXI.* and *XXIII.*, and page 52.

See fig. 146, *Plate XXI.*, for the inscription on the treble.

In 1553 "Burton on ye hyll" possessed "iij greyt belles, one Sanctes bell."*

For a story about these bells see under Luddington.

BURWELL.

S. Michael. 2 Bells.

1. [+ 165] GOD WITH VS W S H W 1683.
(Diam. 30 in.)

2. IN THE NAYME OF IHV SPEDME [▽ 137.]
(Diam. 36 in.; a piece chipped off the rim.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXIV.* and *XX.*

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$ P. R. Off.

BUSLINGTHORPE.

— ? 1 Bell.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 16 in.)

BUTTERWICK.

S. Andrew. 5 Bells.

1. JOHN LINTON VICAR 1714.

(Diam. 30 in.)

2. HENRY PENN MADE ME AND ALL MY FELOWES 1714.

(Diam. 31 in.)

3. SIMON BOWIS EDWARD TVRNER CHVRCH WARDENS 1714.

(Diam. 33 in.)

4. Blank.

(Diam. 36 in.; turned.)

5. PETER PACKHARNIS WILLIAM MANFOLD TRVSTEES 1714.

(Diam. 34 in.)

What is believed to be the ancient Sanctus bell of this church now hangs at the Red Lion Hotel, Boston. It has a narrow crown, is much spread out towards the rim, is devoid of inscription and ornamentation of any kind, and in lieu of canons has a kind of shank. It is painted a dull red colour, and is used weekly to call the farmers to their ordinary. Cannot the churchmen of Butterwick provide the Inn with a new bell, and restore this ancient one to their parish church?

This ring is in G, the 3rd bell sharpened and the 4th flattened by chipping. The bells are rough cast, and some of the lettering nearly illegible. In the ringing chamber is scrawled the following, with much more to the same effect:—

All You that hath A mind to learn to ring
Must to the old Ringer Admission money bring
. . . . . .
. . . . . .
Each coult must, sirs, just three and sixpence pay
When our accounts are past for truth
And you are styled then a College Youth.
So now, my lads, admission money bring
And we will learn you presently to Ring.

The Rev. John Linton was inducted Vicar in 1712; he died 6th January, 1773, aged 88. I presume the "Trustees" named on the tenor bell were those of Anthony Pinchbeck's School Charity.

BUTTERWICK WEST.

S. Mary. 1 Bell.

1. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1841.

The Priest's bell at Owston was given to this church when it was erected in 1841; the above is doubtless a recast of it.

BYTHAM CASTLE.

S. James. 3 Bells.

1. [▽ 124] sce petre ora pro nobis.
(Diam. 29 in.)
2. [+ 3] CVM : : VOCO : : AD : : ECCLESIAM : : VENITE : : 1618.
(Diam. 30 in.)
3. [+ 4] THOMAS NORRIS MADE MEE 1664.
(Diam. 33 in.)

For Stamps see pages 111, 52, and 53.

Alice, the wife of Anketel de Mallorby, by her will, proved on the 26th October, 1412, bequeathed £10 to the fabric of the campanile here.* The 1st bell was probably cast about that time.

In 1565—6 the churchwardens reported that "Itm̃ two handbelles," which had belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold to "wiłłm Craine by the said churche wardens in Ano predi' wch he haith made a brasen morter of."†

BYTHAM PARVA.

S. MEDARDUS. 3 BELLS.

1. THE REV WILLIAM TENNANT CURATE. JOHN ORMOND, CHURCHWARDEN 1831.
(Diam. 27½ in.)
2. REVD WM TENNANT, MINISTER, JOHN ORMOND CHURCHWARDEN 1832.
(Diam. 27¾ in.)
3. [+ 2] ИОИ : CLAMOR : SED : AMOR : CAИTAT : IИ : AVRE : DEI : R W : H S 1612.
(Diam. 30½ in.)

For Stamp see page 52.

In 1565-6 the churchwardens reported that "ij handbells . . . one sacringe bell," which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time were "broken and defaced anno dni 1565."‡

The present bells have been newly hung, the tower and spire lights carefully wired, and the whole place is decent and clean.

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* *Hist. of Bytham Castle*, p. 60; quoting the *Reg. of Bishop Philip of Repingdon.*

† Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 59.

‡ Ib. p. 51.

CABOURN.

S. Nicolas. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 20 in.)

In 1553 there were here "ij great belles j sanctus bell."*

CADNEY-CUM-HOWSHAM.

All Saints. 1 Bell.

1. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1851.

(Diam. 24 in.)

There were formerly three bells, but late in the last century two were sold for the repairs of the church, the one left being cracked. This was a much larger bell than the present one.

CAENBY.

S. Nicolas. 1 Bell.

1. R. B. C.
N° 8

(Diam. 15 in.)

The initials of the maker on this modern bell are accidently those of the present Rector.

CAISTOR.

SS. Peter and Paul. 6 Bells.

1. J. TAYLOR & CO. FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1871.

(Diam. 31¼ in.)

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

2, 3. JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON FOUNDER 1833.
(Diams. $31\frac{1}{4}$, $32\frac{3}{4}$ in.)

4. 7661 S W snedra W hcruhC W O T iroM otnemeM [+ 162.]
(Diam. $34\frac{1}{4}$ in.)

5. [□ 107] [▽ 127] SANC TE PE TRE
(Diam. 39 in.)

6. GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO 1712 [□ 168.]
(Diam. $42\frac{1}{2}$ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXIV.* and *XV.*, and page 114.

Prior to 1871 there were only five bells.

The 2nd and 3rd bells, which were cast without canons, were given by Mr. Martin Munday, who died 25th March, 1832, aged 84 years. The Inscription on his tomb records the gift in these words:—"Such was his veneration for the Church of England he bequeathed by his Will two additional Bells to the Belfry of this Church for the use benefit and amusement of the Inhabitants of the Town of Caistor for ever."

It will be observed that the inscription on the 4th bell is reversed in consequence of the letters having been impressed the wrong way on the mould—that is, the right way for reading. There is doubtless another initial letter before the word "Church," but it is concealed.

CALCEBY.

When the church here was pulled down in 1757 two bells were taken to the mother church of South Ormsby. [See under ORMSBY SOUTH.]

CALKWELL.

S. PETER. 1 BELL.

The single bell here is a modern one, about eighteen inches in diameter.

119

CAMMERINGHAM.

S. Michael. 1 Bell.

1. 1765
(Diam. 17 in.)

120

CANDLESBY.

S. Benedict. 3 Bells.

1, 2. Blank.
(Diams. 24, 28½ in.)

3. REMEMBER DEATH 1704 [O 7.]
(Diam. 30½ in.)

For Stamp see page 59.

121

CANWICK.

All Saints. 2 Bells.

1. [+ 123] AVE MARIA : GRACIA PLENA
[*And lower down :—*]
[+ 123] OMNIVM : SĀORVM
(Diam. 26 in.)

2. m a r i
(Diam. 28 in.)

For Stamp see page 111.

CAREBY.

S. Stephen. 2 Bells.

1. [+ 90] ABCDEFGHI
(Diam. 25¼ in.)

2. Blank.

(Diam. 28¾ in.)

For Stamp see page 87.
The date 1693 is cut on the bell-frame.

CARLBY.

S. Stephen. 1 Bell.

1. [▽ 124] scā mā rī ā

(Diam. 26½ in.)

For Stamp see page 111.

CARLTON CASTLE.

Holy Cross. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 12 in.)

CARLTON MAGNA.

S. John Baptist. 5 Bells.

1—5. ✠ : ✠ · Johan^s Forster
in mem :
Sam^lis Forster 1874
Fred^s. Pretyman Rector
John Taylor and Co. Founders Loughborough 1874.

(1.	Diam.	28 in.	weight	4	cwt.	2	qrs.	15	lbs.	
2.	,,	30 in.	,,	5	,,	1	,,	24	,,	
3.	,,	32½ in.	,,	5	,,	3	,,	14	,,	
4.	,,	36 in.	,,	7	,,	2	,,	4	,,	
5.	,,	37 in.	,,	10	,,	2	,,	15	,,)	

Prior to 1874 (when Major Forster, who is Lord of the Manor, gave the present ring) there were 3 bells only inscribed:—

1. Barabas Simpson Vicar George Aveldale William Winter Church Wardens 1699 [O 7.]
   (Weight 2 cwt. 3 qrs. 0 lbs.)
2. [□ 49 □ 49 □ 49] A D I [□ 49] 1678.
   (Weight 3 cwt. 2 qrs. 6 lbs.)
3. John Innet Vic. Edward Taylor senior Ch: Warden 1717.
   (Weight 5 cwt. 0 qrs. 8 lbs.)

CARLTON PARVA.

S. Edith. 1 Bell.

1. S^L FOSTER D^N D^T 1836. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FOUNDER.
   (Diam. 28 in.)

Mr. Samuel Foster, the donor of the bell, was the brother of the Rev. Stewart Foster the then Rector. By profession a solicitor, he was the owner of the Advowson of the Living, and of considerable estates hereabout.

CARLTON-LE-MOORLAND.

S. Mary. 3 Bells.

1. JOHN HEDDRLY OO MADE ME 1733 OOOOO
   (Diam. 28 in.)
2. JOHN HEDDERLY MADE ME 1733.
   (Diam. 30 in.)
3. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1848. WILLIAM KNIGHT HAYWARD CHURCHWARDEN.
   (Diam. 32¾ in.)

CARLTON SCROOP.

S. Nicolas. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 117] GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH 1613 [□ 113.]
(Diam. 27 in.)

2. g e o r g : e
(Diam. 30 in.)

3. JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER BARTON 1822.
(Diam. 36 in.)

For Stamps see page 108 and *Plate XVI.*

CARLTON NORTH.

— ? 3 Bells.

1. [+ 164] GOD WITH VS W S 1682.
(Diam. 33½ in.)

2. [+ 116 ▽ 119] In Honore Be Maria.
(Diam. 35 in.)

3. + GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1609.
(Diam. 36½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXIV.*, page 107 and *Plate XVIII.*
The frame here is set in the steeple diagonally.

CARLTON SOUTH.

S. Andrew. (?) 1 Bell.

1. [+ 121 □ 119] abe maria gracia plena.

For Stamps see *Plate XVIII.*

The cage here is constructed for three bells. The church was extensively repaired in 1812; perhaps two bells were then sold.

CARRINGTON.

S. Paul. (?) 1 Bell.

This church, built in 1816, has one small bell.

CAWTHORPE LITTLE.

S. Helen. 1 Bell.

The ancient Bell here was recast in the year 1860, when the church was rebuilt. The present small bell is 14 inches in diameter.

CAYTHORPE.

S. Vincent. 8 Bells.

1. :· TINNITUS RAPIDOS SCINTILLANS SPARGO PER AURAS 1759 ·:· THE GIFT OF W^M WILSON.
(Diam. 29 in.)
2. NOS SUMUS CONSTRUCTI AD LAUDEM DOMINI 1759. THE GIFT OF WILLIAM WILSON.
(Diam. 29 in.)
3. OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI :· THE GIFT OF WILLIAM WILSON : A : D : 1744.
(Diam. 30 in.)
4. THE : GIFT : OF : THO : POCHIN : ESQ^R : 1744.
(Diam. 33 in.; Inscription incised.)
5. OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI ·:· A ·:· D · · · 1744.
(Diam. 33 in.)
6. RICH. SEAMOR THO PICKWORTH WARDEИS [□ 157] 1656.
(Diam. 36 in.)
7. all men that heare my mornfull sound repent before you lye in ground 1639.
(Diam. 38 in.)

8. GOD PRESERVE ALL OUR BENEFACTORS RICHARD METHERINGHAM & JOHN BUTTLER : CHURCH-WARDENS ·:· A : D ·:· 1744 ·:·
(Diam. 41 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXIII.*

Nothing is known of the liberal benefactor mentioned on the three first bells. The Rev. C. D. Crofts, the present Rector, writes:—"Neither monuments, registers, nor the memory of the oldest inhabitant, show any trace of his existence, status, or even of the name of Wilson; so we must hope that if unknown to posterity, he may reap the blessing inscribed on Bell No. 8."

Thomas Pochin (see 4th Bell) was the patron of the living. He was the son of Thomas Pochin, Esq., of Barkby, Leicestershire; born 15th April, 1685, married (1st) Charlotte, daughter of Sir Edwd. Hussey, Bart., of Welbourne, Lincolnshire, and (2nd) Mary, daughter and heiress of Thomas Trollope, Esq., of Bourne, Lincolnshire; he was High Sheriff of Leicestershire in 1714; died 30th August, 1751, and was buried at Barkby on the 5th of the following month—September.

CHAPEL HILL (NEAR SWINESHEAD).

This Chapel-of-Ease, built in 1826, has one small bell.

CLAXBY.

S. MARY. 3 BELLS.

1. REV RICHARD DIXON VICAR MR JAMES YOUNG Churchwarden JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON FOUNDER 1789.
(Diam. 30½ in.)

2. [+ 120 ▽ 119] Nome Petri Fero Qui Claviger Extat In Ebo.
(Diam. 33½ in.)

3. [+ 111] HVIVS SC̄I MARTINI [▽ 119.]
(Diam. 34½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XVIII.* and *XVI.*

In 1553 there were here "iij gret belles one Sanctus belles."*

The present 2nd and 3rd are two of the bells mentioned as then existing; the inscription on the former has not, I believe, been met with elsewhere.

The Rev. Richard Dixon, LL.B. (see 1st bell), who was instituted to the Rectories of Claxby and Normanton in 1794, died in March, 1819, and was buried here.

CLAXBY S. ANDREW.

S. ANDREW. 1 BELL.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 18 in.)

In 1552 the Inventory of Church Goods from this parish comprised:—

Imp'mis ij bells of one Reinge ..... vj*li.*
Itm̃ one sanctus bell wt ij hand bells & a sacring bell ... vj*s.*†

CLAYPOLE.

S. PETER. 5 BELLS.

1. RAISED BY SUBSCRIPTION : J : BRIANT & : J : CABOURN HERTFORD FECERUNT 1795.
(Diam. 29 in.)
2. GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH 1633.
(Diam. 30 in.)

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.
† *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 78, P. R. Off.

3. PATMAN BRIGGS & W^M GRIMSHAW C : WARDENS JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT ANNO DOM 1793.

(Diam. 31 in.)

4. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1630.

(Diam. 32 in.)

5. ALL MEN THAT HEARE MY MOVRNFVLL SOVND REPENT BEFORE YOV LYE IN GROVND 1633.

(Diam. 33 in.)

The 2nd, 4th, and 5th bells were from the Nottingham foundry.

CLEE.

HOLY TRINITY AND S. MARY THE VIRGIN. 3 BELLS.

1, 2. JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON FOUNDER 1793.

(Diams. 36, 39½ in.)

3. REV^D SAMUEL STOCKTON VICAR GEORGE PARKER CHURCHWARDEN 1793. JAMES HARRISON BARTON FOUNDER.

(Diam. 44 in.)

In 1553 Clee possessed "iij belles one santus bell."*

The bells having been recast in 1793, the following Rules were placed on a board in the belfry:—

Orders to be kept by ye ringers in ye town of Clee, in ye County of Lincoln, from the 27 day of Nov. 1793 with ye consent of ye Rev. J. Stockdale, vicar, Richd Rawson Churchwarden.

Any person y^t shall ring a bell with his hat upon his head shall forfeit and pay 6^d to ye use of ye ringers.

Any person y^t shall ring a bell with his spurs on shall pay 6^d to ye use [&c.]

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

Any person y^{t} shall ring a bell, and break a stay, shall make it good and forfeit 6^{d} for ye use [&c.]

Any person y^{t} shall pull a bell of her stay and cannot set her on again shall forfeit 6^{d} for the use [&c.]

Any person leaving ye rope on ye floor to forfeit 2^{d} [&c.]

Any person or persons who shall swear or lay wagers, etc., in ye ringing room shall forfeit for every offence 3^{d} to the use [&c.]

Any person who shall read any of these orders with his hat upon his head shall pay 6^{d} to the use [&c.]

Clee printed by George Parker, in ye yeare 1793.

CLEE NEW.

S. John the Evangelist. 1 Bell.

1. J. TAYLOR & CO. FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1879.
(Diam. 24 in.; weight 3 cwt. 1 qr. note G.)

This new church was consecrated on 12th June, 1879.

CLEETHORPES.

S. Peter. 1 Bell.

1. REMEMBER DEATH 1701 [O 7.]
(Diam. 33 in.)

For Stamp see page 59.

This chapel was consecrated in 1866; the bell is a second-hand one from Strubby Church, near Alford. [See under Strubby.]

CLIXBY.

— ? 1 Bell.

1. Blank.

COATES.

S. Edith. 2 Bells.

1. Blank.
2. R S R T 1704 [O 7.]

For Stamps see page 59.

These bells are quite small ones, and one is cracked.

COATES GREAT.

S. Nicolas. 4 Bells.

1, 2, 3. 1807.
(Diams. 26, 28, 31 in.)

4. JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER 1807.
(Diam. 35 in.)

In 1553 "Gret Cootes" possessed "iij gret belles."*

It appears that these, or some of them, subsequently disappeared, for the ancient bells of Beelsby (said to have been a very fine ring) were sold to the churchwardens here, and recast into the present bells—which are light ones without canons—in the year 1807.

On the bell-frame—which appears to have been reconstructed—is inscribed:—

—Robinson Curat—Edward Gilliat Churchwarden 1739.
James Harrison of Mid[l] Raison Bell-Hanger.

COATES LITTLE.

S. Michael. 1 Bell.

In 1553 "Lytell cotes" possessed "ij gret belles,"† which are now represented by a single small bell so placed as to be almost inaccessible; it is reported to be without inscription.

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off. † *Church Goods, Misc. Book*, 507, *Aug. Office.*

145

COATES NORTH.

S. Nicholas. 3 Bells.

1, 2, 3. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1864.

[*Royal* ▽ *Arms.*]
Patent.

(1.	Diam.	26	in.;	weight	4	cwt.	0 qr.	1	lb.;	note F.
2.	,,	27½	in.;	,,	4	,,	1 ,,	11	,,	,, E flat.
3.	,,	30	in.;	,,	5	,,	1 ,,	13	,,	,, D¼ flat.)

In 1553 there were in the church of "North Cottys" "iij gret belles j santus bell."*

In 1604 these three bells were recast at the Nottingham foundry, and inscribed:—

1. My roaring sound doth warning give
   That men cannot here always live 1604.

2. I sweetly toling men do call
   To taste on meats that feeds the soul 1604.

3. All ye that hear my mournful sounde
   Repent before you lie in grounde 1604.

At the close of the last century these three bells remained, but subsequently one of them disappeared. It is presumed that it was sold to pay for repairs to the church; and one of the two remaining ones was cracked when they were sent to the founder in 1864. The present three bells weigh 12 lbs. less than the former two.

The Rev. T. R. Matthews, the present Rector, has written the following melody in three notes for North Coates bells, which he permits me to print here:—

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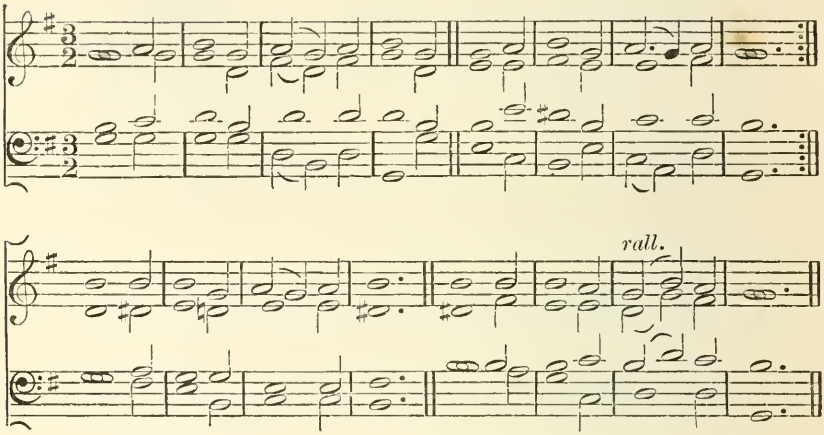
* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

VILLAGE VESPERS.

(8.7, 8.7, 7.7.)

"Through the day Thy Love has spared us."

T. R. MATTHEWS.



COCKERINGTON NORTH.

S. MARY. 3 BELLS.

1. [+ 66 ▽ 68] Scā Maria Ora Pro Nobis.
(Diam. 25½ in.)
2. Nomen Sanctorum gerit hec Campana puerorum [O 19.]
(Diam. 26 in.)
3. [+ 116] FEARE GOD 1634.
(Diam. 28 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate VIII.*, and pages 70 and 107.

COCKERINGTON SOUTH.

S. Leonard. 3 Bells.

1. GERVASE SCROPE ESS. THO WILLKINSON VIC. 1726.
(Diam. 34 in.)
2. ADRIN BIRCH DANIEL HEDDERLY CAST ME IN 1726.
(Diam. 36½ in.)
3. ✠YME ✠RYE✠H ✠HE ✠RVETH [▽ 108] 1266 [▽ 170.]
I [□ 107] S
(Diam. 40 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XV.* and *XXV.*

The Rev. Thomas Wilkinson (1st bell) first signs the Register 11th March, 1721; he was buried here 22nd May, 1741.*

Cockerington had long been the seat of the Scropes when Sir Adrian Scrope died here in 1623; from him descended Gervase Scrope, Esq., whose name is on the 1st bell; he was Lord of the Manor at the time, and his descendants still possess it.†

Adrian Birch gentleman, who was probably a benefactor to the 2nd bell, was buried here 21st September, 1738.‡

The figures in the date on the 3rd bell are evidently misplaced for 1626; the inscription is in post-mediæval Gothic and Roman letters mixed.

COLD HANWORTH.

All Saints. 1 Bell.

This bell being in a most awkward little tower, and also being said to be dangerous for access, I am reluctantly obliged to note it as inaccessible.

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* *Par. Reg.* † See a Pedigree of the family in Blore's *Rutland.* ‡ *Par. Reg.*

COLEBY.

All Saints. 5 Bells.

1. THE LORD TO PRAISE MY VOICE I RAISE. T. OSBORNE FOUNDER DOWNHAM MARKET.
(Diam. 29 in.)
2. PEACE AND GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD.
(Diam. 31 in.)
3. SING YE MERRILY UNTO GOD.
(Diam. 33 in.)
4. LONG LIVE KING GEORGE III.
(Diam. 36 in.)
5. WHEN YE DO HEAR MY VOICE ABROAD COME YE TO CHURCH AND SERVE THE LORD. JOHN LANSDALE CHURCHWARDEN 1798.
(Diam. 40 in.)

COLSTERWORTH.

S. John. 4 Bells.

1. [+ 2] TOBIAS ИORRIS CAST ME 1684.
(Diam. 28 in.)
2. [+ 2] GOD SAVE THE KING R HARDEL I WHITEL TOBIE ИORRIS CAST ME 1674.
(Diam. 30 in.)
3. TAYLOR & CO. FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1860.
(Diam. 31 in.)
4. [+ 2] GOD SAVE THE KIИG TOBIAS ИORRIS CAST ME 1684.
(Diam. 36 in.)

For Stamp see page 52.

The 3rd bell was previously inscribed:—

Non clamor sed amor cantat in aure Dei 1613.

CONINGSBY.

S. Michael. 6 Bells.

1. J. BURCHAM C. WARDEN J. BRIANT & J. CABOURN HERTFORD FECERUNT 1801.
(Diam. 29½ in.)

2, 3. The Rev^D Jn^O Dyer Rector Ge^O Martin & Sam^L Bailey Ch. Wardens 1757 Lester & Pack of London Fecit.
(Diam. 29½, 32 in.; both cracked.)

4. [+ 116] LYON BOVLTON & W 1614.
(Diam. 33½ in.)

5. [+ 116] BRYAN GLAGGORE & W 1614.
(Diam. 36 in.)

6. [+ 116] GOD SAVE OVR KING 1616.
(Diam. 39 in.)

For Stamp see page 107.

The Indented Inventory of Church Goods delivered to the parson and churchwardens of "Conysbe" in 1553, is unfortunately defective as regards the bells; it says:—

Santus bell [*blank*] great bell.*

The Rev. John Dyer (see 2nd and 3rd bell), who was the author of "*The Ruins of Rome*," "*The Fleece*," &c., was buried here on the 15th December, 1757, aged 56.

CONISHOLME.

S. Peter. 1 Bell.

Tradition asserts that there were formerly good bells here, which were sold when the old tower fell. The present bell is a small one, without inscription or date.

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

CORBY.

S. John. 4 Bells.

1. [+ 3] MEROREM [□ □ 5] MESTIS [□ □ 5] LETIS [□ □ 5] SIC [□ □ 5] LETA [□ □ 5] SONABO 1618.

(Diam. 31 in.)

2. [+ 2] NON CLAMOR SED AMOR CANTAT IN AVRE DEI 1629.

(Diam. 33 in.; 4 coins on rim.)

3. I sweetly toling men do call to taste on meats that feeds the soole [□ 113] 1604.

(Diam. 37 in.)

4. [+ 128] In noe [□ 118] ihu xpi ome nuob [□ 118] flectat [□ 118] celestiu terstriu t infroru [□ 107] [□ 127] [□ □ 149 and 150]

(Diam. 40 in.)

For Stamps see pages 52 and 53, *Plates XVI.*, and *XIX.*, page 108, *Plate XV.*, and pages 114 and 123.

The inscription on the 4th bell is *In nomine Jhesu Christi omne genu flectatur celestium terrestium et inferorum.*

On the bellframe are these initials:—

T T : R K : L H : C W : 1670 :

In 1565-6 the churchwardens reported that "the handbelles" which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time had been "sold to Roberte dente of Graunthan."*

CORBY.

At the Roman Catholic Chapel here there is one small bell cast by Messrs. Taylor and Co. of Loughborough.

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 61.

CORRINGHAM.

S. Lawrence. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. JOHN WELLS JAMES WIGELSWORTH C.W. 1744.
(Diam. 34½ in.)
2. ALL GLORY BEE TO GOD ON HIGH 1660 [□ 157.]
(Diam. 38 in.)
3. JOHN WARNER & SONS CRESCENT FOUNDRY LONDON 1857.
[*Royal* ▽ *Arms.*]
Patent.

And incised on waist :—

THIS BELL RECAST 1857 BENJAMIN LAMB } C.W.
JOHN COOK }

(Diam. 40½ in. ; cracked and piece broken out.)

Priest's Bell :—

Blank.
(Diam. 13½ in.)

A new ring of five bells by Taylor of Loughboro' baptised & dedicated by the Vicar Epiphany 1884

For Stamp see *Plate XXIII.*

In 1553 there were here "iij grat belles one sanctus bell."* "Ch Times" Jan 26. 84.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "a handbell and a sacring bell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, still remained "in o^r ꝑish churche," but that "Itm̃ one other handbell" was "lost in the plague tyme," that is during the great Plague of 1563.†

These bells are now in a sad condition, and can scarcely be used. An estimate has been obtained for putting them in order, which it is hoped may be acted upon ; about £170 is required.

There is a tradition current here that many years ago a gentleman being lost on the then unenclosed moor, sometimes called Corringham Scroggs, and again finding his whereabouts by the sound of the church bells then ringing in the evening, he left ten shillings yearly to the

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods Linc.* $\frac{3}{5}\frac{3}{3}$ P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 61.

ringers to pay them for ringing during the winter months, and so to save others from being lost. In support of the truth of this tradition it may be mentioned that the bells were formerly rung from the 5th November to 14th February, for which ringing the churchwardens allowed 3 lbs. of candles and 10*s.* to pay for four lots of beer at the public-house, viz., on 5th November, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, and 29th May. Nothing is now known about the traditional bequest.

COVENHAM S. BARTHOLOMEW.

S. Bartholomew. 3 Bells.

1. [□ 107] [▽ 127] [+ 140] S [+ 140] S
(Diam. 27 in.)
2. IESVS BE OVR SPEED 1632.
(Diam. 29 in.)
3. [□ 61 ○ 62 □ 69 ○ 62 □ 61 ○ 62 □ 69 ○ 62.]
(Diam. 30 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XV.*, pages 114 and 118, and *Plate VIII.*

In 1566 the churchwardens of "Cownham Bartholomewe" reported that the "handbelles," which had belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, were "brockin and defacid in a 1566."*

COVENHAM S. MARY.

S. Mary. 3 Bells.

1. [▽ 27 ▽ 27 ▽ 27.]
(Diam. 27½ in.)
2. J. HARRISON FOUNDER THO BRAY CHURCHWARDEN 1822.
(Diam. 33 in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 63.

3. JOHN SIKES C.W. 1726.
(Diam. 33 in.; all canons cut off.)

For Stamp see *Plate III.*

COWBIT.

S. Mary. 3 Bells.

1. JOSEPH EAYRE FECIT 1769.
(Diam. 28 in.)
2. Vox Augustini Sonet In Aure Dei [▽ 27 ▫ 28 ▽ 29]
(Diam. 29½ in.; cracked; canons gone.)
3. EDWD ARNOLD LEICESTER FECIT 1788.
(Diam. 33½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate III.*
The 1st and 3rd bells were previously inscribed:—

1. Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis.
3. Thomas Norris made mee 1663.

The W for V on the 2nd bell is not uncommon.
All the present wheels are broken; no rope to 2nd; all very dirty; timbers shakey.

CRANWELL.

S. Andrew. 1 Bell.

1. SR. JOHN THORALD DONOR 1752.
(Diam. 21 in.)

Early in the sixteenth century the manor of Cranwell passed into the possession of the ancient family of Thorold. Sir John Thorold, the 8th Baronet, who was born in 1703, and resided chiefly at the old Hall here, was the donor of the above bell. He died in 1775.

CREETON.

S. Peter. 2 Bells.

The framework is in too unsound a condition to allow of an inspection of the bells, which are believed to be comparatively modern.

CROFT.

All Saints. 6 Bells.

1. LESTER AND PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1762 GEORGE SMITH AND JOHN LEEMAN C Ws.
2. JOHN WILLIAMSON JOHN ALLETT C Ws. H.P. 1716.
3. IN CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH H.P. 1716.
4. HENRY PENN FOUNDER 1716.
5. HE THAT HATH EARS TO HEAR LET HIM HEAR H. P. 1716.
6. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON. GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST ON EARTH PEACE GOODWILL TOWARDS MEN, 1877.
   REHUNG BY J. R. JERRAM.
   (Diam. 40 in.)

The previous tenor was inscribed:—

Prepare to die. Samuel Walker Vicar H.P. 1716.

The Parish Books show among the "Dues & Duties belonginge and appertaininge unto the office of the Clarkes of Croft Anno Dni 1626":—

Item for the passinge bell ringeinge for evry Inhabitant &c. that are deceased foure pence.

The Sexton's wages, at the same period comprised, amongst other dues:—

For Ringing the Bell at 8 and 4 ..... 01 · 00 · 00*

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* Oldfield's *Wainfleet*, p. 140-141.

On a Tablet in this church was formerly:—

All buildings are but monuments for death
All clothes but winding sheets for my last knell,
All dainties fattening for the worms beneath,
All curious musick but a passing bell.
Thus death is nobly waited on, for why?
All things we have is but death's livery.

CROWLE.

S. Oswald. 3 Bells.

1. I sweetly toling men do call to taste on meats that feeds the soble 1663 [□ 157] ts. ci. wi. to. wardens marmaduke cooke minister.
2. W : D C : J J : S 1593.
3. ME RESONARE IVBET PIETAS MORS GRATA VOLVPTAS 1656 A·S CHVRCH WARDENS J. M. R O.
[□ 161 ▽ 163 ▽ 166.]

For Stamps see *Plates XXIII.*, and *XXIV.*

In 1553 there were here "iij greatt bells and one sanctus bell."*

All the present bells have lost their canons. The Rev. M. Cooke (1st bell) not being mentioned in the Registers was probably a temporary curate.

CROXBY.

All Saints. 1 Bell.

1. R ♙ B
W.
(Diam. 9 in.)

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods Lincs.* $\frac{3}{33}$ P. R. Off.

In 1553 "Croxbye" possessed "iiij gret belles & one sanctus bell."*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "a handbell" which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time was broken at Christenm̃s last and sold," and that "and that the late ꝑson had . . . . ye sacringe bell" but what he did with it they could "not tell certainlie."†

CROXTON.

S. JOHN. 1 BELL.

1. 1822.

In 1566 the Churchwardens reported that "a sacringe bell," which had belonged to this church in Queen Mary's reign, was "defacid A° p̃mo Elizabth by the said churchwardens."‡

CROYLAND.

SS. GUTHLAC AND BARTHOLOMEW. 5 BELLS.

1. [+ 2] THOMAS NORRIS MADE ME 1654.
(Diam. 30 in.; no canons.)

2, 3. EDWD ARNOLD LEICESTER FECIT 1788. WM HICKLING WM COOKE CHURCHWARDENS ○ ○
(Diams. 33, 34 in.)

4. REVD MOORE SCIEBO RECTOR ✠ WILLIAM COOKE AND CHARLES ASHBY CHURCHWARDENS E ARNOLD LEICESTER ✠ ✠ FECIT 1797 ✠
(Diam. 38½ in.)

5. In Multis Annis Resonet Campana Iohannis [▽ 30 □ 33 □ 28.]
(Diam. 39 in.)

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* *Augm. Office Misc. Book* 507, *Church Goods*, P. R. Off.

† Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 65.

‡ Ib. p. 65.

For Stamps see page 52, and *Plate III.*

The early history of the Bells of Croyland Abbey—of which the present parish church is a portion—is familiar to most lovers of Church Bells, inasmuch as it records the first known ring of bells in England.

Turketyl, the sixth abbot (A.D. 946—975), cast a great bell for the Abbey, naming it Guthlac. Egelric, his nephew and successor (A.D. 975—984), added six more bells, namely, two large ones which he named Bartholomew and Betelm, two middle ones named Turketyl and Tatwyn, and two lesser ones named Pega and Bega. When these seven bells were rung (says the chronicler Ingulph, whose statements, for our present purpose, are accepted as correct) "an exquisite harmony was produced thereby, nor was there such a peal of bells in those days in all England."* "They resounded with melody" (says Dr. Stukeley) "through the extended plains of Holland; whence the proverb 'as sweet as Croyland bells.'"† The sound of Guthlac was even better than music, for "the ringing of Guthlac at Croyland, according to Fuller, was a remedy for the headache."‡

These bells hung in the central tower until the year 1091, when a fire broke out in the belfry, and Ingulph, the chronicler of the Abbey, and its then abbot, running to the church door, and attempting to get in, had a narrow escape of being killed by the "melted brass" of the bells which poured down; the tower fell, and the bells and belfries were consumed.

After this great fire, when the monks set to work to rebuild their church, they erected "an humble belfry and placed therein"—says the chronicler—"two small bells which Fergus the coppersmith of Saint Botolph's town [Boston] had lately presented to us, there to remain until years of greater prosperity, when we propose by the Lord's assistance to make alterations in all these matters for the better."

In 1091 Senian de Lek was appointed Keeper of the Church.

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* Ingulph's *Chronicle and Continuations* (Bohn's Ed.), p. 107.

† *De Croylandia Memorabilia*, Gresley's Ed. p. 13.

‡ Gatty's *Ecclesiastical Bell*, Papers of Ass. Arch. Societies, III. p. 258.

Amongst other duties he was to ring all the notices in the church both in the night and in the daytime, with a few exceptions, when the duty was performed by the monks.

Ingulph, who was elected Abbot in 1075, replaced the books, vestments, bells, and other requisites before his death, which took place in 1109.

About the year 1171 the church, with its outbuildings and most of its furniture, was again destroyed by fire, but was quickly restored by Abbot Edward, who then ruled the house. Whether the bells suffered is not told.

Abbot Ralph Merske (1253-1281) erected a Campanile or detached building, at the East end of the church which was known as the "outward belfry;" * and John de Asheby, abbot, who died in 1392, gave, or else recast, "the large bells hanging in the outward belfry."† So at that time the abbey possessed two rings of bells.

In 1405 there were "four sweetly sounding bells" hanging "in the tower beyond the choir"—that is, as it is generally understood, the central tower: they were repaired in that year by Abbot Thomas Overton.

In the time of John Lytlyngton (Abbot 1427-1469) the great bells in the outer steeple or belfry were recast "in order that they might be brought to a state of more perfect harmony," in which the monks were assisted by John Leycester, a brother of the monastery, who, in 1463, "induced by pious considerations . . . , contributed 40 marks" towards the good work.

What became of the bells of the outer steeple at the Dissolution is not now known: at Moulton there is a tradition that the church bells there came originally from Croyland Abbey. A similar tradition is current at East Pinchbeck, the bells being said to have been sent there because there was no other tower in the neighbourhood large enough for them.

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* Gough's *Hist. Croyland* (1783), p. 57.

† So says Dugdale and Gough, but in Ingulph's *Chronicle* we are told that he "caused the great bells of the Convent to be recast," without specifying which ring.

In 1465 the Abbot, John Lytlyngton, "in order that nothing might remain undone which is considered to tend to the increase of the praise of God, caused five fine and choice bells to be cast at London, and substituted for the three old ones [one gone since 1405] here [that is in the central tower] to send forth their sweet sounds with their harmonious chimes. The cost of these, together with the expense of the carriage thereof to Croyland by land and water, amounting in all to a sum of one hundred and sixty pounds, was defrayed entirely by himself. These bells (continues the chronicler) while still lying below upon the ground before they were hung, were solemnly consecrated by Nicholas, the venerable lord bishop of Elphin, who was at this time suffragan of the reverend father in Christ, John, lord bishop of Lincoln. They were inscribed from the smallest to the greatest with the names in especial of the patron saints in whose honour they were most devoutly dedicated: the names being Guthlac, Bartholomew, Michael, Mary, and Trinity." The chronicler goes on to relate that a great beam, which was being raised in the greater bell tower, which had been newly built in the Western part of the church, in which it was intended that the bells just mentioned should be hung, fell down, doing much damage and jeopardising the lives of the workmen, all of whom, however, escaped.*

Two of the five "fine and choice bells" hung here by Abbot John Lytlyngton in 1465 most probably remained in the church until after 1783, for Gough in his *History of Croyland Abbey*, published in that year, mentions the inscriptions on the bells:—

1. In multis annis resonet Campana Johannis.
2. Sum Rosa pulsata mundi Maria vocata.
3. Hæc Campana beatæ Trinitati sacra.†

The first, dedicated to S. John, was cast subsequently to Abbot

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* Ingulph's *Chron. and Contin.* (Bohn's Ed.), pp. 197-203, 208, 215, 233, 273, 358, 432, 441, 442.

† See also *Harl. MSS.* 6829, p. 240, where the same inscriptions are given.

Lytlyngton's time, but those numbered 2 and 3 (Gough evidently did not care to record the modern bells) would be those mentioned by the chronicler as dedicated to "Mary" and "Trinity."

From that time to the present the bells tell their own history: two of the ancient bells mentioned by Gough have been recast.

Hearing that there were many old Papers in the Parish Chest here, Mr. W. H. Jones of Uppingham very kindly went to inspect them on my behalf. He writes, "I was sadly disappointed with the Parish Chest. I was three hours or more rummaging amongst Poors' Accounts, Settlements, Indentures, &c., &c.; the few scraps of Churchwardens' Accounts were simply rags, the rest reduced literally to dust, in which I was half smothered."

From the chaos thus described the following references to the bells were gathered :—

1690.	It. pd. to Mr Brickells for Hanging the Bell	18 . 10 . 0
	It. given to the Ringers November ye 5th 1690 ...	00 . 11 . 08
	It. given to the workmen when they was Hanging the Bells	00 . 01 . 00
1691.	It. paid Wm. Bridgins for a bawdrick for the great Bell	00 . 01 . 06
1693.	May 10. It. pd. to Step. Williamson for Beare yt ye Ringers had ye day of Reioycing against ye ffrench	00 . 09 . 04
1694.	It. pd. Tho. Darby for makin ye Letell bell a baudrick	00 . 01 . 06
1742.	[Payments to Ringers on 5th Novr and 25th Decr]	
1748.	June 3. for taking the litel bell out of the frame	0 . 3 . 6
1763.	[From a loose bill] one new weell for ye forth bell	2 . 7 . 0
	one new Weell for ye third Bell	2 . 7 . 0
1802.	Oct 11. Paid Mrs Redman for ale for the Ringers of the peace	0 . 5 . 0

The Rev. Moor Scribo (whose name is mis-spelt on the 4th bell) was a native of Gedney, Lincolnshire. He was entered of Sidney-Sussex College, Cambridge; B.A. there in 1745; and in 1747 was appointed Curate of Quorndon and Woodhouse, Leicestershire. In 1767 he was presented to the Rectory of Croyland, and died there on the 13th of July, 1808, aged 85 years.

CULVERTHORPE.

In 1566 the churchwarden of the ancient chapel of S. Bartholomew, "Thorpe in P'rochie de Heyther," reported that "one sacringe bell" belonging to that church in Queen Mary's time had been "broken in peces and sold."*

CUMBERWORTH.

S. Helen. 3 Bells.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 11 in.)

2. J. TAYLOR & CO LOUGHBOROUGH 1870.

(Diam. 21¾ in.)

3. J. TAYLOR & CO LOUGHBOROUGH 1873.

(Diam. 24 in.)

The 1st bell was doubtless intended for a Priest's bell. One of the larger bells is said to have been formerly inscribed:—

IESV MERCI.

CUXWOLD.

S. Nicolas. 1 Bell.

1. 1822.

(Diam. 17½ in.)

In 1553 "Cokeswold" possessed "tow gret belles."†

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 151.

† *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

DALBY.

— ? 1 Bell.

In 1862 the ancient church here was taken down and the present church erected.

Some years previously the single bell, being cracked, was recast, and made somewhat heavier as the following extracts from the Churchwardens' Account show:—

1849.	Paid Barratt for bell	£6 . 18 . 2
	John Thorne for hanging	1 . 6

DALDERBY.

The ancient church here, dedicated to S. Martin, has long been lost, though traces of its foundations are visible.

In 1553 there were "iij great bells j sanctus bell" hanging in its steeple.*

DAWSMERE.

Christ Church. 1 Bell.

1. J. TAYLOR & CO. FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1872.
(Diam. 15 in.)

DEEPING S. JAMES.

S. James. 5 Bells.

1. J ⁝ COVLSON ⁝ AND ⁝ T ⁝ MEASVRE ⁝ CH ⁝ W ⁝ ALEX ⁝ RIGBY ⁝ MADE ⁝ ME ⁝ 1704 ⁝
(Diam. 34 in.)

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

2. [+ 2] NON ⁝ CLAMOR ⁝ SED ⁝ AMOR ⁝ CANTAT ⁝ IN ⁝ AVRE ⁝ DEI 1608.

(Diam. 37 in.)

3. [+ 124] Sc̄e Jacobe [▽ 119.]

(Diam. 42 in.)

4. [+ 2] ИОИ SOИO AИИIMABVS MORTVORVM SED AVRIBVS VIVEИTIVM 1624 TOBIE ИORRIS CAST ME.

(Diam. 43½ in.)

5. [+ 1] IESVS [▫ 4] SPEEDE [▫ 4] ME [▫ 4] ИOИ [▫ 4] SOИO AИИIM- ABVS MORTVORVM [▫ ▫ 4] SED [▫ 4] AVRIBVS [▫ 4] VI- VEИTIVM

TOBIE ИORRIS FECIT 1623.

(Diam. 48 in.; all canons gone.)

For Stamps see pages 52 and 111, *Plate XVIII.* and page 53.

In 1565-6 the churchwardens reported that "one cross clothe and two hand belles," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been "sold by the said churchwardens anno 1562 for the somme of xx^{d} and the mouney bestowed vpon shewes and geven to a poore child wth in the ꝑishe defaced;" and that "a sacring bell," which they had borrowed of "tighee [the churchwarden] in quene Maries tyme," had been defaced "as we are able to depose."*

DEEPING FEN.

S. Nicolas. 1 Bell.

This modern church possesses one bell cast in the year 1846.

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 69.

DEEPING MARKET.

S. Guthlac. 6 Bells.

1. CUM VOCO VENITE O JOSEPH EAYRE S^T NEOTS HUNTINGDONSHIRE FECIT 1766.
(Diam. 30¾ in.)
2. OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI 1766.
(Diam. 32¼ in.)
3. EGO SUM VOX CLAMANTIS JOSEPH EAYRE S^T NEOTS FECIT 1766. O O
(Diam. 34 in.)
4. IN DEI GLORIAM IN ECCLESIÆ COMMODUM :·: JOSEPH EAYRE FECIT S^T NEOTS HUNTINGDONSHIRE 1766.
(Diam. 36¾ in.)
5. LAWRENCE MAYDWELL RECTER JOHN MAWBY JOHN BOYALL CHURCHWARDENS 1766 O O
(Diam. 40 in.)
6. LAURENCE MAYDWELL RECTER JOHN MAWBY JOHN BOYALL CHURCHWARDENS O O JOSEPH EAYRE S^T NEOTS FECIT NO^V 15 1766.
(Diam. 44¼ in.: the coins are Farthings of George II.)

In 1565-6 the churchwardens reported that a "hand bell" which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, was sold in A° dn̄i 1563, and that another "hand bell" was also sold in the same year "and put to ꝑfane vse."*

The ancient Churchwardens' Accounts, commencing in 1570, are very interesting: the following extracts relate to the bells:—

1587. Deepinge Gutlac.
Itm̃ p^d to ye ringers on the Coronation days..... iij*s.* vj*d.*

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 68.

1588.	Parochia S^{ti} Gutlachi de M'kett Deepinge.....	
	P^{d} for bread & drinke on St Hughes daye & the two days followynge	xvj*d.*
	P^{d} for ij pinnes for ye bell bauldricke	ij*d.*
	P^{d} for 1 lb of grease for ye belles	iiij*d.*
	P^{d} for ye great bell baldricke mendinge	viij*d.*
1591.	P^{d} for bread and drinke & greese on St Hugh's daye	xv*d.*
	P^{d} to Rowland Harrison for mendinge ye bell clapper	xij*d.*
1592.	Itm̃ to nine men to ringe on ye Queenes daye.....	iv*s.* vj*d.*
	Itm̃ for bread & drinke & greese.....	xv*d.*
	Itm̃ for hanginge of ye great bell & ye fore bell ...	vj*s.* viij*d.*
	Itm̃ for keyes & iron for ye belles	xij*d.*
1593.	Itm̃ for bread & ale grese & candle on ye Queene's daye	ij*s.* viij*d.*
	Itm̃ to Wilkinson for ye greate bell staye	viij*d.**

In 1637 a difference having arisen between the then Rector of Market Deeping—the Rev. Paul Prestland—and his parishioners concerning the new framing and casting of the bells and other rights of the church, and he being then sickly and "not willing to follow suits" petitioned Archbishop Laud to have the matter referred to Montague Lord Willoughby "and other eminent gentlemen next adjoining." The Archbishop passed the matter on to Sir John Lambe (Dean of Arches) in order to obtain an account of the petitioner, but how the dispute was settled is not recorded.†

The Rev. Laurence Maydwell (see 5th and 6th bells) was Rector here for thirty-six years: he died 14th March, 1788.

75 DEEPING WEST.

S. Michael or S. Andrew (?). 5 Bells.

1, 3. WILLIAM DOBSON, FOUNDER, DOWNHAM NORFOLK 1829.

(Diams. 28½, 32 in.)

* For these extracts I am much indebted to the Rector—the Rev. David Robertson, R.D.

† *State Papers Dom. Ser. Car.* I. Vol. 383, No. 44.

2. [+ 1] TOBIE ꓘORRIꓢ CAꓢT ME 1673.
(Diam. 30 in.)

4. MYHILL ADDY CHURCHWARDEN IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1829.
(Diam. 34 in.)

5. EDWARD ARNOLD LEICESTER FECIT 1787. EDWD ROSE CHURCHWARDEN ✠ ✠
(Diam. 38 in.)

For Stamp see page 52.

In 1565-6 the churchwardens of "West Deping" reported with regard to "Monuments of Superstition" belonging to the church in Queen Mary's time:—

> Itm̃ two handbelles wth a latten cross and a paire of sensers one hallie water stock wt a candlestick wt one pix of Copper and gilte—solde to leonard Stubbes by the said churchwardens anno Dni 1560 wch the said churchwardens boughte againe of the saide leonard Stubbes wch was melted and cast towardes the mendinge of a broken bell.*

Prior to 1829 there were four bells only.

A stained glass window was inserted in the tower in the year 1865, to the memory of Mr. Myhill Addy, whose name is on the 4th bell.

The 3rd bell is unhung (1879), but the bells and belfry are well cared for.

DEMBLEBY.

S. Lucia. 2 Bells.

1, 2. J. WARNER & SONS LONDON 1867.

In 1566 the churchwarden reported that "a handbell and a paire of sensers wth a crismatorie" which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time had been "sold to John Pollard of the said ꝑishe A° 1565

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 70.

by Thomas Tailor churchwarden, whether he hath defaced it I knowe not but moste certainly at my retorne he shall deface it."*

Prior to the erection of the present church in 1867 there was only one bell at the ancient church and it was cracked: it weighed 174 lbs. Marrat describing it in 1834 writes:—"Here is only one bell which hangs upon two posts on the outside of the flat roof [of the nave], and is rung by means of a lever and a rope tied to the longer end, the rope goes through the roof into the church, and when the bell is ringing it very naturally reminds a spectator on the outside of the action of pumping."†

DENTON.

S. Andrew. 6 Bells.

1. RECAST IN THE YEAR 1839 RICHARD BURGIN CHURCHWARDEN THOMAS MEARS, FOUNDER, LONDON.

(Diam. 29 in.)

2. Wm. WELBY & Wm. GREGORY WILLIAMS ESQ^RS BEN^FRS CAST NEW IN 1782. THO^S HEDDERLY OF NOTTINGHAM FECIT.

(Diam. 31½ in.)

3. FOUR OF US WAS RECAST AGAIN TO SING BY FRIENDS TO COUNTRY CHURCH & KING THO^S HEDDERLY OF NOTTINGHAM FECIT 1782 ○ ○

(Diam. 33 in.)

4, 5. Wm. WELBY & Wm. GREGORY WILLIAMS ESQ^RS BENEFACTORS RECAST IN 1782 THO^S HEDDERLY NOTTINGHAM FECIT.

(Diams. 35, 38 in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 66. † Marrat's *Hist. Lincs.* III. p. 164.

6. ALL YE THAT HEAR MY MOURNFULL SOUND REPENT BEFORE YOU ARE LAY'D IN GROUND THO^S HEDDERLY OF NOTTINGHAM FECIT O O
(Diam. 43 in.)

In 1566 the churchwardens reported "Itm̃ as for . . . handbelles . . . we had none in quene maries tyme so far forthe as we can learne nor yet sacring bell."*

Prior to 1782 there were four bells only. These bells, according to a memorandum in Thomas Hedderly's note book, weighed and measured on the 31st January, 1782, as under:—

	H.	Q.	lbs.							
Tenor.	14	0	0	43½	in. wide	2⅞	bare thick	31¼	high.	
3.	9	2	12	39	,, ,,	2⅝	,, ,,	28	,,	
2.	8	0	3	35½	,, ,,	2⅜	,, ,,	26	,,	
Treble.	6	1	3	33¾	,, ,,	2¼	,, ,,	24	,,	

When the new bells were cast the following were the weights and measurements:—

	H.	Q.	lbs.					
Treble.	5	3	24	30½	in. wide	2½	thick.	
2.	6	0	23	31½	,, ,,	2⅜	,,	Bare ½ note too sharp.
3.	6	2	22	33	,, ,,	2⅜	,,	
4.	7	2	5	35	,, ,,	2⅜	,,	
5.	9	1	12	38	,, ,,	2⅜	,,	
6.	12	3	10	43	,, ,,	2⅝	,,	Too thin upwards.†

This new ring was opened on the 27th October, 1782; the bells were rehung in 1855.

William Welby, Esq., who died in 1657, purchased the manor of Denton. His grandson—William Welby, Esq., the benefactor to the

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 67.

† I am indebted to Mr. W. P. W. Phillimore for these extracts from the founder's note book.

bells—was High Sheriff of Lincolnshire in 1746, and Colonel of the South Lincolnshire Militia; he married Catherine, daughter of James Cholmeley, Esq., of Easton, and died in 1792.

DIGBY.

S. Thomas a Becket. 3 Bells.

1. BARSTON GRANTHAM 1822.
(Diam. 27½ in.)
2. WILL. MEDCALFE WARDEN [□ 157] 1656.
(Diam. 29 in.)
3. WILLIAM WEBB C W 1759 DANIEL HEDDERLY FOVNDER.
(Diam. 32½ in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XXIII.*

DODDINGTON.

S. Peter. 1 Bell.

1. CHARLES M. G. JARVIS RECTOR 1851. JOHN NESBITT CHURCHWARDEN PRAISE THE NAME OF THE LORD FOR HIS NAME ONLY IS EXCELLENT AND HIS PRAISE ABOVE HEAVEN AND EARTH. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON.
(Diam. 22 in.)

The former bell was badly cracked when it was sent to the foundry. The Rev. Charles M. G. Jarvis was instituted as Rector in 1837; he resigned the living in 1861, and died at Torquay, where he was also buried, in 1863.

DODDINGTON DRY.

S. James. 1 Bell.

1. [+ 86] SANCTVS : IACOBVS
(Diam. 24 in.)

For Stamp see page 86.

Doddington Dry paid half the cost of the recasting of the Bells of the mother church of Westborough in 1752, as appears from the following entries in the Churchwardens' Accounts:—

1752.	Charges at Newark about the Bell and for the Article	4 . 8
	For carrying the bells to Nottingham—half	5 . 3
	For fetching the bells home—half	10 . 6
	P^d^ half of Mr. Hederleys the Bellfounder's bill	31 . 17 . 4
	For Bell ropes—half	11 . 0
1754.	For half the bell ropes	6 . 0

DONINGTON.

S. Mary and The Holy Rood. 5 Bells.

1. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1743.
(Diam. 29 in.)
2. JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER BARTON 1820.
(Diam. 30 in.)
3. RICHARD BOWLES AND THOMAS TENEY CHURCHWARDENS 1776.
(Diam. 35 in.)
4. JOHN WARD AND Wm. TOOLEY CHVRCHWARDENS.
Th° Hedderly Founder 1743.
(Diam. 36 in.; out of order.)
5. SUSCITO VOCE PIOS TU IESU DIGERE MENTES
JOHN FLINDERS JOHN WATERHOUSE C. W. 1747.
(Diam. 43 in.; out of order.)

On the bell-frame is:—

HENRY BROWNING THOMAS COLINGWOD
CHVRCH WADENS 1695. IOHN BROWN WORKMAN.

Digere on the 5th bell is a blunder for *Dirige*.

DONINGTON-ON-BAIN.

S. ANDREW. 3 BELLS.

1. JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON FOUNDER 1796.
(Diam. 24½ in.)
2. JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER 1796.
(Diam. 27 in.)
3. JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER BARTON 1796.
(Diam. 29½ in.)

In 1553 "Donnyngtone" in Gartree Wapentake possessed "iij gret bells & a santus bell."*

DORRINGTON.

S. JAMES. 3 BELLS.

1. [+ 1] TOBIE NORRIS CAST VS ALL THREE 1692.
(Diam. 32½ in.)
2. [+ 1] THOMAS BVRNNET THOMAS HANSON 1692.
(Diam. 35 in.)
3. [+ 1] JOHN TODKILL GENT ROBERT STANDISH GENT 1692.
(Diam. 39 in.)

For Stamps see page 52.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "ij Handbelles," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, "were broke and sold to Leondard lawcock of Lincoln."†

There was formerly a chapel here, called Shefford Chapel, standing on the Chapel Hill, half-a-mile south-east of the parish church: it was taken down in 1698, and its materials used in repairing the church. It had a single bell, dated 1643, which long continued to hang in a wooden

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 73.

frame in the village, and to be rung for service in the church on account of the distance of the latter from the village. Bishop Trollope* says it was eventually taken down and removed to the church.

DOWSBY.

S. Andrew. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 32 in.)

2. GEORGE WELLS CHURCHWARDEN 1775.
(Diam. 32½ in.)

3. OMNIA : FIANT : AD : GLORIAM : DEI : 1608
WILLIAM : RIGDEИ : MILES.
(Diam. 36 in.)

Priest's Bell :—
1827.
(Diam. 12 in.; not used.)

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "ij handbells," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold "to a metle man."†

William Rigden (see 3rd Bell) possessed, and lived at, the Hall here.

DRIBY.

S. Michael. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 18 in.)

DUNHOLME.

S. Chad. 3 Bells.

1. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1629.
(Diam. 32 in.; cracked and useless.)

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* Trollope's *Sleaford*, p. 232. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 71.

2. RICH. COOPER VICAR ROB. SQUIRE CHVRCH WARDEN
E. Seller Ebor. DEO GLORIA 1730.
(Diam. 34 in.; broken and useless.)

3. In noe ihu xpi oms genu flectat 1628.
(Diam. 37 in.)

The second bell has a crown ornament consisting of the founder's name alternating with bells.

DUNSBY.

All Saints. 2 Bells.

1. KIMNOPORST
(Diam. 26 in.)

2. S [+ 140] S [▽ 127.]
T. IAKLING AND HIS VVIFE
(Diam. 29 in.)

For Stamps see pages 118 and 114.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "the handbelles," which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, were "broken in peces and sold to a brasier of lincoln in an°. 3° Elizabeth regine" and that "one sacringe bell" had been "broken and defaced."*

The surname of Jackling (see 2nd bell) is not uncommon in Lincolnshire: it is also known in Cambridgeshire (see Raven's *Cambridgeshire Bells*, page 26).

DUNSTON.

S. Peter. 3 Bells.

1. JAMES HARRISON BARTON, 1819.
(Diam. 32 in.)

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 72.

2. [+ 116] IHESVS BE OVR SPEDE
[□ 113.]
(Diam. 32 in.)

3. all men that heare my mornfull sobnd repent before you lye in ground 1633.
(Diam. 38 in.)

For Stamps see page 107 and *Plate XVI.*
The 1st bell was previously inscribed:—

Celorum Christe placeat tibi Rex sonus iste.*

EAGLE.

ALL SAINTS. 3 BELLS.

1. JESUS BE OVR SPEED 1727.
(Diam. 27½ in.)

2. JOHN COTTAM C.W. DANIEL HEDDERLY CAST ME 1727.
(Diam. 29 in.)

3. DANIEL HEDDERLY CAST US 1727.
(Diam. 30½ in.; a large piece out of lip.)

EAST FERRY.

S. MARY. 1 BELL.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 12½ in.)

This bell is only used for Divine Service; passing, funeral, and marriage ringing for the inhabitants of East Ferry is at the Parish Church, Scotton.

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* *Harl. MSS.* 6829, p. 337.

EASTVILLE.

— ? 1 Bell.

This church, built in 1840, has only one small bell.

EDENHAM.

S. Michael. 5 Bells.

1. THOMAS MEARS FECIT 1832.
(Diam. 32 in.)
2, 3. RECAST 1807. GEORGE PARKER CHURCHWARDEN T. MEARS & SON FECIT.
(Diams. 34, 36 in.)
4. JOHN BACON ROBT ALLEN CHURCHWARDENS HENRY PENN MADE ME 1721.
(Diam. 39 in.)
5. THOMAS DONCOMBE RECTOR 1636. THOMAS NORRIS MADE ME.
(Diam. 42 in.)

In 1565-6 the churchwardens reported that "the lytle sackering bell" belonging to the church in Queen Mary's time was "defaced and mad away when sire Thomas Sharpeney being Minister John Goodall and Simond Tebbe churche masters a° p'mo Elizabeth."*

The bells here having been long out of order were rehung in 1874 with entirely new fittings by Messrs. Taylor and Son, of Loughborough, at the joint expense of Lady Willoughby de Eresby and the parishioners.

The present tenor is traditionally said to have been made from the metal of a former bell brought from the neighbouring Abbey of Valle-Dei, which formerly stood in Grimsthorpe Park.

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 75.

EDLINGTON.

S. Helen. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. 1824.

(Diam. 30 in.)

2. IHS SANCTE PETRE [▽ 137.]

(Diam. 34 in.)

3. IHS SCE PAVLE [□ 112 □ 110 ▽ 137.]

(Diam. 37 in.)

Priest's Bell:—

T L T F C W 1670.

(Diam. 11½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XX.* and *XVI.*

In 1553 there were here "iij bells in the steple wt a sanct' bell."* Two of those bells still remain.

ELKINGTON NORTH.

S. Helen. 1 Bell.

1. [+ 24] IOHANNES [□ *] SLEYHT [□ *] ME [□ *] FECIT

(Diam. 19½ in.; * a fleur-de-lys.)

For Stamp see page 71.

ELKINGTON SOUTH.

All Saints. 3 Bells.

1. Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis [▽ 27 □ 28 ▽ 29.]

(Diam. 32¾ in.)

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

2. Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum [▽ 29 □ 28 ▽ 27.]
(Diam. 36½ in.)
3. Intonat Celis Vox Campana Michaelis [▽ 29 □ 28 ▽ 27.]
(Diam. 39⅛ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate III.*

These bells form an interesting and uniform set; the capital letters on the 3rd bell are crowned.

ELSHAM.

All Saints. 3 Bells.

1. SOLI DEO GLORIA W. S. [□ 167] 1664.
(Diam. 28 in.)
2. [□ 141 □ 142 □ 144 □ 145.]
(Diam. 30 in.)
3. SOLI DEO GLORIA 1636.
(Diam. 33 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXIV.* and *XXI.*

ENDERBY BAG.

S. Margaret. 1 Bell and a Priest's Bell.

1. [+ 41] SC̄A : MARGARETA ORA PRO NOBIS
(Diam. 34 in.)

Priest's Bell :—

Blank.
(Diam. 13 in.)

For Stamp see *Plate VI.*

In 1552, when the Inventory of Church Goods belonging to this

parish was drawn up, the following entries were made as to the bells and their value:—

Itm̃ ij grete bells ..... vj*li.* iij*s.* iiij*d.*
Itm̃ one sanctus bell ..... v*s.*
Itm̃ ij hand bells ..... xx*d.**

The present bell is one of the two bells then hanging. It is probably coeval with the erection of the church and tower by Albini de Enderby, who died in the year 1407. His memorial brass is still in the church.

ENDERBY MAVIS.

S. Michael. 3 Bells.

1. ABRAHAM FREESTON RECTOR TOBIE NORRIS CAST ME 1688.
(Diam. 26½ in.)
2. JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER BARTON 1819.
(Diam. 29 in.)
3. [+ 116] Missi De Celis Hēo Nomen Gabrielis [▽ 119.]
(Diam. 32⅜ in.)

For Stamps see page 107 and *Plate XVIII.*

In 1553 there were here "iij great belles one Sanctus bell."†

The Rev. Abraham Freeston (see 1st bell) was instituted as Rector in 1685; he was buried at West Keal on 24th August, 1727.

ENDERBY WOOD.

S. Benedict. 1 Bell.

1. [+ 66] Sancta Maria.
(Diam. 25½ in.)

For Stamp see *Plate VIII.*

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 78, P. R. Off.

† *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods Linc.* $\frac{3}{54}$ P. R. Off.

EPWORTH.

S. Andrew. 6 Bells.

1, 3, 5. JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON-UPON-HUMBER FOUNDER 1813.

(Diams. 36, 41, 48 in.)

2, 4. 1813.

(Diams. 39, 43 in.)

6. REVD CALEY ILLINGWORTH DD. ARCHDEACON OF STOW RECTOR. JOHN SAMPSON AND BELTON BUTTRICK CHURCHWARDENS JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON FOUNDER 1813.

(Diam. 54 in.: note C., all without canons; very wide and thin.)

In 1553 there were "iiij gret Belles j santus bell" belonging to Epworth.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "a handbell" belonging to the church in Queen Mary's time had been sold.†

The present bells were hung in 1814 having been previously weighed, it is said, on a sycamore tree growing near the belfry door: the record of the weights is lost. The Epworth people are proud of their tenor bell, and say "no other bell nearer than the one in York Cathedral which rings out the tenor C." But competent critics say that owing to their great thinness of metal, the bells here are not to be compared with the neighbouring ring at Haxey, which are cast on the old plan.

The Rev. Cayley Illingworth, D.D., F.S.A.; Archdeacon of Stow, Rector of this parish (see 6th bell), was also Rector of Scampton (of which parish he wrote a *Topographical Account*) and Vicar of Stainton. He died at Scampton on the 28th August, 1823, in the 65th year of his age.‡

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off.

† Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 76.

‡ See a short Memoir of him in *Gent. Mag.* Vol. xciii. Part 2 (1823), p. 279.

EVEDON.

S. Mary. 3 Bells.

1. WE PRASE THE O GOD 1745.
(Diam. 27 in.)
2. I ACKNOWLEDG THE TO BE THE LORD 1745.
(Diam: 29 in.)
3. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1745.
(Diam. 32 in.)

These Bells were cast by Hedderly of Nottingham.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "one hand bell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, was "sold to a brasier . . . . in anno p̃mo Elizabethe." *

EWERBY.

S. Andrew. 4 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. HENRY PENN FVSORE 1710.
(Diam. 38 in.)
2. [+ 116] IHESVS [□ 118] BE [□ 118] OVR [□ 118] SPEDE [H D □ □ 149 and 150.]
(Diam. 39½ in.)
3. JOHN BULLIMAN W^M TINDALE C^H WARDENS T. OSBORN DOWNHAM NORFOLK FECIT 1783.
(Diam. 44¾ in.)
4. [+ 116] ALL LAVDE AND PRAISE BE VNTO GOD ALWAISE 1616 [□ 113.]
(Diam. 47 in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 77.

Priest's Bell :—

Blank (?)

For Stamps see pages 107, 108, and 123, and *Plate XVI.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "ij hand belles" which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time had been sold to one Cuthbert a pewterere of lincoln in the begynig of lent."*

FALDINGWORTH.

All Saints. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. [□ 107] [▽ 127] [+ 140] S [+ 140] S [+ 140] S
(Diam. 31½ in.)

2. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1854.
(Diam. 33½ in.)

3. I.C. T.H. R.B. JESVIH BE MY SPEED. W. OSBORN C.W. 1733.
(Diam. 38 in.)

Priest's Bell :—

Blank.
(Diam. 15 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XV.* and pages 114 and 118.

The 2nd bell was previously inscribed :—

Jesvs be my spede 1591.

FARFORTH.

S. Peter. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 14 in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 80.

FARLSTHORPE.

S. Andrew. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.

(Diam. $15\frac{3}{4}$ in.)

FENTON.

All Saints. 3 Bells.

1. AVE MARIA [▽ 124.]
(Diam. 31 in.)
2. [+ 117] JHESVS BE OVR SPEDE 1596.
[□ 113]
(Diam. 33 in.)
3. all men that heare my mornfull sobnd repent before yob lye in grobnd 1627.
(Diam. 36 in.)

For Stamps see pages 111 and 108, and *Plate XVI.*; and for the curious letter A, with a crozier annexed, on the 1st bell, see fig. 179, *Plate XXVI.*

There is a tradition that there were formerly four bells.

FERRIBY SOUTH.

S. Nicolas. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 165] W. S. 1676 [□ 167.]
(Diam. $22\frac{1}{2}$ in.)
2. DANIEL · HEDDERLY · FOUNDER · 1741.
(Diam. 24 in.)
3. [□ 142 □ 144 □ 145 □ 143] d e f t
(Diam. 25 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXIV* and *XXI.*

There is a tradition in the village that in former times there was a very fine ring of bells here but that they were stolen and carried across the Humber into Yorkshire.

The present bells want rehanging.

FILLINGHAM.

S. ANDREW. 1 BELL.

1. J. HARRISON FOUNDER. CHRISTOPHER WALKER CHURCHWARDEN 1817.
(Diam. 30 in.)

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "ij handbells," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been "sold, thone of theim to willm' moris and thother to willm drewrie who hathe defacid them."*

FIRSBY.

S. ANDREW. 2 BELLS.

1. Blank and cracked.
2. JOHN WHITE C. W. GOD SAVE HIS CHURCH 1731.

FISHTOFT.

S. GUTHLAC. 5 BELLS.

1. MELODIAM ORDIOR HENRY PENN FUSORE 1713.
(Diam. 28½ in.)
2. MAGISTRO ET DISCIPVLIS SONO 1713.
(Diam. 29 in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 82.

3. DANIEL HEDDERLY FOVNDER HENRY MOBERRY C. W. 1731.

(Diam. 33 in.)

4. FIDELES VOCO AD DOMVM DEI WILL : BATES. C.W. 1713.

(Diam. 34½ in.)

5. VITAM METIOR MORTEM PLORO. MR POWELL RECTOR 1713.

(Diam. 40 in.)

A similar ring hangs at Friskney.

The Rev. John Powell was rector from 1711 to 1717.

Three bells only are chimed for Divine Service: no peal has been rung for several years owing to the insecure state of the bell-frames.

FISKERTON.

S. CLEMENT. 3 BELLS.

1. [+ 162 □ 167] IESVS BE OVR SPEED W. S. H. W. 1683.

(Diam. 26 in.]

2. [□ 62 □ 69 □ 62 □ 61 □ 62 □ 69 □ 62 □ 61 □ 69.]

(Diam. 29 in.)

3. ✠ : WILL : RAYNER PAR : 1618.

(Diam. 33 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXIV.*, and *VIII.*

The following entry in the Churchwardens' Book most probably points to the sale of the ancient Sanctus bell:—

April 22. 1805
Rec^d for an old bell ..... £2 . 18 . 0

The name of William Rayner (see 3rd bell) is not found in the Register.

FLEET.

S. Mary Magdalene. 6 Bells and a Call Bell.

1, 2. The Rev^D James Ashley Rector John Ashfield Wm. Smith Church Wardens. Thomas Mears & Son of London Fecit 1806. John Cabourne Bell Hanger.

(Diams. 30, 31 in.)

3. JOSEPH MALLOWS OF EAST DEREHAM IN NORFOLK 1758.

(Diam. 31½ in.)

4. The Rev^D James Ashley Rector John Ashfield Wm. Smith Ch. Wardens Thomas Mears & Son of London Fecit 1806.

(Diam. 37 in.)

5. AИИO DOMIИI 1572 FILI DEI VIVI MISERERE NOBIS I B.

(Diam. 38 in.; very rude letters; canons off.)

6. W^M Dennes & W^M Winkley Ch. Wardens Lester & Pack of London Fecit 1766.

(Diam. 43 in.)

Call Bell:—

J. R. JERRAM & D. OLIVER CHURCHWARDENS 1876 MEARS & CO. LONDON.

Prior to 1758 there were four bells only: in that year the present 3rd was added as a treble, and the present 5th bought second hand of Joseph Mallows of East Dereham as a 3rd, thus making a ring of five which in 1798 were inscribed:—

1. (The present 3rd.)
2. Ihesus be our spede 1598.
3. (The present 5th.)
4. (The present 6th.)
5. Thomas Norris made me 1652.

This last mentioned bell was exchanged for the present 1st and 2nd bells in 1806, to make a ring of six. The bells are hung in two tiers, the steeple being only 11 feet 6 inches square. The bells and belfry are in excellent order. There is a chiming apparatus by Mr. J. R. Jerram, who also rehung the tenor bell in 1874.

There is a peal board dated 10th June, 1878.

The Rev. James Ashley (see 1st, 2nd, and 4th bells) died in 1806.

FLIXBOROUGH.

ALL SAINTS. 1 BELL.

1. 1624.

In 1553 there were, in the ancient church here, "iij gret belles."*

In the *Gentleman's Magazine* for October, 1786, is a notice, with a Plate, of a singular detached campanile then standing by the old church. It was a light frame-work of wood, supporting a little roof, under which hung the bell with a wheel. It was to the south of the church, and attached to it were the parish stocks.

FOLKINGHAM.

S. ANDREW. 5 BELLS.

1, 2. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1847.
(Diams. 30½, 32½ in.)

3. SIT NOMEN DOMINI BENEDICTUM LAUDATE ILLUM CYMBALIS SONORIS THOS EAYRE FECIT 1761.
(Diam. 34½ in.)

4. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON.
THOS MITCHELL } CHURCHWARDENS 1847.
JOHN EASTLAND }
(Diam. 38 in.)

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$ P. R. Off.

5. [+ 2] GOD SAVE THE KING S. TOWEL TOBIE NORRIS CAST ME 1676.
(Diam. 39½ in.)

For Stamp see page 52.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "ij hand belles" belonging to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been "sold to Edward ffoste."*

FOSDYKE.

ALL SAINTS. 1 BELL.

1. BENEIDCT WADINGHAM WILLIAM HVNT 1630.
(Diam. 30½ in.)

Belonging to the ancient church here were five bells: four were sold to help to defray the expences attending a new building erected about the year 1756,† which, in its turn, gave place to the present church in the year 1870.

FOSTON.

S. PETER. 3 BELLS.

1. FEARE YE THE LORD [□ 157] 1658.
(Diam. 30 in.)
2. 1827.
(Diam. 33 in.)
3. JOHN KNIGHT C : WARDEN AUGT 18 : 1821 *TAYLOR & SON FOUNDERS ST NEOTS & OXFORD.*
(Diam. 39 in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XXIII.*

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 81. † Saunder's *Hist. Linc.* Vol. 1. p. 352.

FOTHERBY.

S. Mary. 3 Bells.

1. I sweetly toling men do call to taste on meats that feeds the soule 1608 [□ 113.]
(Diam. 27 in.)

2. My roaring sobnd doth warninge gibe that men cannot here always lybe [□ 113] 1608.
(Diam. 29 in.)

3. All men that heare my mobrnfbll sobnd repent before yob lye in grobnd 1608 [□ 113.]
(Diam. 32 in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XVI.*

FRAMPTON.

SS. Mary and Michael. 5 Bells.

1. REVND J : WAITE VICAR J : & T : TUNNARD C. Ws J : BRIANT & J CABOURN HERTFORD FECERUNT 1801.
(Diam. 32 in.)

2. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1620.
(Diam. 34 in.)

3. JESVS BE OVR SPEED 1620.
(Diam. 36 in.)

4. ALL GLORY BEE TO GOD 1620.
(Diam. 38½ in.)

5. [+ 116] MY RORING SOVND DOTH WARNING GIVE THAT MEN CANNOT HEARE ALLWAIES LIVE 1620.
(Diam. 43 in.)

For Stamp see page 107.

On the bell-frame is the date 1670.

The Rev. John Wayet, whose name is attempted on the treble bell, held the living only temporarily for a short time. He was Vicar of Pinchbeck for many years, but died and was buried at Boston in 1841.

FRIESTHORP.

S. Peter. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 165] W S 1676.
(Diam. 22¾ in.)

2. [□ 107] [+ 140] S [+ 140] S [▽ 127]
(Diam. 25½ in.)

3. [+ 117] AVE MARIA
(Diam. 26½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXIV.* and *XV.*, and pages 118 and 108.

FRIESTON.

S. James. 5 Bells.

1. [+ 1] GOD SAVE THE KING 1669.
(Diam. 33 in.)

2. [+ 116] PETER THOMAS IOHN AND WILLIAM PISHYE AL BRETHREN GAVE THIS BEL 1614.
(Diam. 34 in.)

3. [+ 1] GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH 1662.
(Diam. 38 in.)

4. Sum Rosa Pulsata Mundi Maria Vocata [▽ 29 □ 28 ▽ 27]
(Diam. 42 in.; crowned capitals.)

5. [+ I] THOMAS NORRIS MADE ME 1640.
(Diam. 47 in. ; cracked.)

For Stamps, see pages 52 and 107, and *Plate III.*

This is rather a fine ring in D., but not in good tune.

The canons of the treble have been cut away: the 2nd has been over-sharpened and much injured by chipping: the 4th, which is a very beautiful bell, has been flattened by the same process; the tenor has been a very fine bell, but there is a crack of 40 years' standing in the shoulder; the lip is covered with coins. [J. J. R.]

With reference to the Rose as an emblem of the Blessed Virgin (see 4th bell) an ancient writer remarks:—"The Image of our Lady is painted with a Child on the left arm in token that she is mother of God, and with a Lily or else with a *Rose* in her right hand, in token that she is maiden without end, and a flower of all women. (*Dives and Pauper* 1495.)

The brothers Pishye, donors of the 2nd bell, were most probably descendants of Herbert Peché, who held the manor of Frieston in the year 1272. The name of Pysshe occurs on a list of persons here, assessed to a subsidy granted to Queen Elizabeth, in 1597. The family remained in Frieston until 1749, when the name became extinct by the marriage of Bridget Pishey with John Thompson.*

FRISKNEY.

ALL SAINTS. 5 BELLS.

1. MELODIAM · ORDIOR · HENRICVS · PENN · FVSORE 1719.
(Diam. 26½ in.)

2. MAGISTRO · ET · DISCIPVLIS · 1719.
(Diam. 28 in.)

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* Pishey Thompson's *Hist. of Boston*, p. 519.

3. LABOREM · SIGNO · ET · REQVIEM · 1719.
(Diam. 30 in.)
4. FIDELES ⁝ VOCO ⁝ AD : DOMUM : DEI : ADLARD : CVTCHBERT : CHVRCHWARDEN 1719.
(Diam. 33 in.)
5. VITAM METIOR MOTEM PLORO 1719.
(Diam. 36½ in.; "*motem*" *for mortem.*)

A similar ring hangs at Fishtoft, with the word "sono" in the second bell's inscription, which is omitted here.

Mr. Adlard Cuthbert was buried 22nd June, 1753, aged 69 years.

FRITHVILLE.

— ? 1 Bell.

This church, erected in 1821, has one small bell.

FRODINGHAM.

S. Laurence. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 116] IHESVS BE OVR SPED 1614.
2. Prayse the lord 1624.
3. [+ 120] Et [□ 110] Nomen Dicti Gero Sci Bndicti [□ 122 ▽ 119.]

For Stamps see page 107 and *Plates XVIII.* and *XVI.*

In 1553 there were here "iij greyt belles."* Judging from the present ancient tenor bell, which is a very fine one, the old three bells had probably continuous inscriptions, of which it carries the conclusion.

FULBECK.

S. Nicolas. 6 Bells.

1. VENITE EXULTEMUS FRANCIS FANE DONOR 1743.

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off.

2. DANIEL HEDDERLY MADE ME IN 1742 ROBERT CAPP C.W.
3. SOLI DEO GLORIA 1743.
4. DANIEL HEDDERLY MADE US ALL IN 1743.
5. FRANSIS FANE ESQ. EDWARD FANE RECTOR.
6. SOLI DEO GLORIA DANIEL HEDDERLY FOUNDER 1743.

Francis Fane, Esq., Lord of the Manor of Fulbeck, benefactor to these bells, was the son of Francis Fane, Esq., by Dorothy his wife, daughter of Sir Henry Heron, and great grandson of Sir Francis Fane, K.B., of Fulbeck (third son of the first Earl of Westmoreland). He was baptized on the 3rd of April, 1696; married first a daughter of Edward Paine, Esq., of Hough in this county, and second, Jane, daughter of Sir Richard Cust, Bart.; he died on the 19th October, 1758.

FULLETBY.

S. Andrew. 2 Bells.

1, 2. J. WARNER AND SONS LONDON 1857.
(Diams. $11\frac{1}{2}$, $14\frac{1}{2}$, in.)

In 1553, when an Inventory of the Church Goods here was taken, the bells and their value were thus described:—

It' iij bells & a lytle bell .....vij*li.**

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "a sacringe bell," which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, still remained.†

There are said subsequently to have been five bells: and that three of those were sold in the early part of the last century, towards defraying the cost of extensive repairs to the fabric. The large bell then sold is traditionally believed to be in the belfry at Tetford, three miles from

* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 78, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 81.

hence. In 1799, the tower needing repair, the churchwardens pulled it down level with the nave, throwing over the top a pitched roof covered with tiles; the remaining two old bells were then sold, and a small ting-tang hanging in a wooden cupola substituted. That small bell, which was cracked about thirty years ago, did duty until 1857, when all that remained of the old tower was taken down, the church rebuilt, and the present two bells suspended in a stone bell turret.

FULSTOW.

S. Lawrence. 1 Bell.

1. [+ 117] GOD ȘAVE OVR KING [□ 113]
(Diam. 36 in.)

For Stamps see page 108 and *Plate XVI.*

In 1553 there were here "iij gret belles & one santus bell."*

Subsequently the ancient church here is said to have had a ring of eight bells and a Priest's bell. When the tower fell many years ago seven of them are believed to have been sold to Clee church where, however, they have only three, and most probably never had a larger number (see p. 358). The Priest's bell continued to hang under a small wooden cote at the West end of the South aisle until the church was repaired in 1869, when it was taken to the school where it now hangs. It is 12 inches in diameter, without inscription, date, or stamp, and is cracked.

GAINSBOROUGH.

All Saints. 8 Bells.

1, 2, 3, 4. 7. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1764.
(Diams. 30, 30¾, 33, 35, 43½ in.)

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

5. IN WEDLOCK'S BANDS ALL YE WHO JOIN WITH HANDS YOUR HEARTS UNITE; SO SHALL OUR TUNEFUL TONGUES COMBINE TO LAUD THE NUPTIAL RITE.

(Diam. 37½ in.)

6. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1856. THIS BELL WAS RECAST 1856.
WILLIAM STANWELL } CHURCHWARDENS.
JOHN FERRIS MARSHALL }

(Diam. 39¼ in.)

8. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT O O O O
JOSEPH HORNBY & JOHN COATS CHURCHWARDENS 1764.

(Diam. 48 in.)

In 1553 there were "v [?] gret belles and on' sanctus bell."*

Prior to 1764 there were five bells only as is evident from the following memorandum as to an ancient charge upon certain lands for the providing of ropes:—

> August 25th 1690. Mem. There is ffoure bell ropes found by the farms in East Stockwith viz: John Luddington senior his farm the Great bell rope; Nicholas Booteflower his farm the fourth and third bell; John Luddington jun' the second bell; and is to be found by these three farms for ever.
>
> Witness,
>
> Thos Elley, Saxton.

A "Terrar" (apparently of a rather later date) also mentions this matter as follows:—

> Three bell ropes are found by the heirs of Stanhope for their lands in Stockwith; the second and third bell ropes from a farm now or

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off. The original is much faded.

late in the occupation of William Stow; the fifth bell-rope from a farm late Reeder (supposed farm situate at Ravenfleet). John Luddington's estate at Stockwith finds a rope for the fourth bell.

Whether, says Stark (*Hist. of Gainsborough*, 2nd Ed. 1843, pp. 387-8), these ropes were found by the several estates from ancient custom or grant does not now appear; neither is it now certain exactly which farms are liable. In consequence no claim has been made for many years.

The Churchwardens' Accounts for 1856 give the following particulars as to the recasting of the 6th bell:—

		s.	*d.*
1856. Octr. 25.	Frt [freight] of bell to & from London	0 . 17	. 8
Nov. 21.	New Bell £76 . 8 . 7 less allowed for old metal £62 . 13 . 6	13 . 15	. 0

There are two Peal Boards in the Belfry: the 1st dated 24th May, 1768; the 2nd, dated 1 January, 1848, records the ringing of "the First Peal of Kent Treble Bob Major ever Rang in the County of Lincoln comprising 5088 changes in the Time of 3 Hours & 20 minutes."

GAINSBOROUGH.

HOLY TRINITY. 1 BELL.

This parish was formed in 1843; there is one small modern bell.

GAUTBY.

ALL SAINTS. 1 BELL.

1. Blank (?)

(Diam. 15 in.)

In 1553 "Gawdebe" possessed "too greatt bells."*

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

No ladder to be had to reach the present single bell, which is believed to have no Inscription.

GAYTON-LE-MARSH.

S. George. 3 Bells.

1. 1823 O O O O
(Diam. 12 in.)
2. [+ 60] GOD SVVE HIS CHVRCH.
(Diam. 29 in.)
3. [+ 60] GOD WITH VS AMEN ANNO DOM 1674 O
(Diam. 32 in.)

For Stamp see page 77.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "a sacringe bell," which belonged to this church in the time of Queen Mary, "was given to the pson of Tottill A° pmo Elizabth and what he did wth it wee know not."*

Although the first of the present bells was evidently from its size intended for the Priest's bell, it is chimed with the others, and not used for any other purpose. It was cast by Harrison, without canons, and the canons of the other two bells are cut off.

GAYTON-LE-WOLD.

S. Peter. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 10 in.)

GEDNEY.

S. Mary. 5 Bells.

1. INTACTUM SILEO PERCUTE DULCE CANO. T. OSBORN DOWNHAM FECIT 1794.
(Diam. 31 in.)

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 84.

2, 4. ·:⁝ THOS OSBORN FOUNDER 1794.
(Diams. 34, 39 in.)

3. OUR VOICES SHALL IN CONCERT RING : IN HONOUR BOTH TO GOD AND KING.
T. OSBORN DOWNHAM FOUNDER 1794.
(Diam. 35 in.)

5. REVD THOS WILLSON VICAR MICHL ATHEW GEORGE OLDHAM CH WARDEN : T. OSBORN FECIT 1794 ⁝···
(Diam. 45 in.)

In 1566 the churchwardens of "Gedney ffen end" reported that "one sacringe bell," which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, had been "defaced and broken."*

The Rev. Thomas Willson—see 5th bell—(who was also Vicar of Soham and Whaddon, Cambridgeshire), was instituted to the Vicarage of Gedney in 1794 : he died in 1796 or early in 1797.

Here is a Peal Board dated 1800.

233 GEDNEY HILL.

HOLY TRINITY. 5 BELLS.

1. LET US LIFT UP OUR VOICE WITH JOY ·: 1804 :·
(Diam. 27 in.)

2. PEACE AND GOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ·: 1804 :·
(Diam. 30 in.)

3. GIVE NO OFFENCE TO THE CHURCH. OSBORN AND DOBSON FOUNDRS 1804.
(Diam. 31 in.)

4. OSBORN AND DOBSON FOUNDERS DOWNHAM NORFOLK 1804.
(Diam. 33 in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 84.

5. WILLIAM HORNER CHURCHWARDEN A ✠ D ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FOUR.
(Diam. 37 in.)

Prior to 1804 there were three bells only: a Minute Book in the custody of the Charity Trustees gives the following particulars:—

> Five new bells were hung in the steeple of this chapel in the year of our Lord 1805, which were cast at Downham in the County of Norfolk by Mr Osborn & Dobson, Bell Founders: all of them weighing, Cwts. 31, qrs. 0, lbs. 21: Wm Horner, churchwarden: cost £142 . 19 . 3¼. This sum is exclusive of the weight of the three old bells, which were recast.*

GLENTHAM.

S. Peter. 4 Bells.

1. J. JOHNSON W. BARNARD CHVRCHWARDENS 1687.
2. LABOVR OVERCOMETH ALL THINGS 1687.
3. LET GLENTHAM EVER BE HAPPY 1687.
4. PROSPERITY TO THE CHVRCH OF ENGLAND AS IN LAW ESTABLISHED 1687.
(All canons gone; tenor cracked.)

GLENTWORTH.

S. Michael. 2 Bells.

1. [+ 165] GOD WITH VS 1675 W. S.
(Diam. 24 in.)
2. THOMAS BILLAM CH : WARDEN 1777.
(Diam. 28 in.)

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* Kindly extracted for me by the Vicar, the Rev. George Clark.

For Stamp see *Plate XXIV.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "a hand bell," which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, had "gone we cannot tell howe the same yeare [1565]."*

There are cages for three bells: there is a tradition that the missing one was taken to some other church. A Sanctus bell formerly hung in the west belfry window, as is shown by certain marks on the shaft of the window.

The church books give the following entries kindly extracted by the Rev. J. Sanderson :—

		s.	d.
1777.	By fetching weights to weigh the old bells and carriage back	0 .	5 . 0
	By John Harrison his bill for recasting and hanging bells	10 .	7 . 9

136 GOLTHO.

S. George (?). 1 Bell.

This chapel, which is a mile from any house, now possesses one small bell, which was hung above the west gable about the year 1844, a short time previously to the marriage of the daughter of one of the principal parishioners. Prior to that time there was no bell.

137 GONERBY GREAT.

S. Sebastian. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 140 + 140 □ 107 ▽ 127.]
2. MICHAEL KELLHAM : C : W : THOMAS HEDDERLY FOUNDER : NOTT^M 1765.
3. [□ 107] [▽ 127] Celorum xte placeat tibi rex sonus iste.

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 85.

For Stamps see page 118, *Plate XV.*, and page 114.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "one howslinge bell one sacring bell ij handbelles," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been "broken in peces and sold vnto Roberte Sandes of Gunwerbie Smythe sens the last visitacōn."*

GONERBY LITTLE.

Here are two Chapels-of-ease—"The School Chapel," opened in 1863, and "S. Saviour's Chapel," opened in 1880—each possessing one small bell; that at S. Saviour's being supplied by Mr. James Barwell of Birmingham.

GOSBERTON.

SS. Peter and Paul. 5 Bells.

1. [+ 3] TOBIE NORRIS CAST ME 1683.
(Diam. 34¼ in.)

2. [+ 116] IHESVS BE OVR SPEED 1618.
(Diam. 36 in.)

3. [+ 3] OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI
TOBIE NORRIS CAST ME 1624.
[*Royal Arms* ▽ *of James I.*]
(Diam. 39 in.)

4. WILLIAM DOBSON FOUNDER DOWNHAM NORFOLK IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1828.
(Diam. 42¾ in.)

5. J. G. CALTHROP · W. DODD CH : WARDENS. T. OSBORN FECIT 1787.
(Diam. 48 in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 86.

For Stamps see pages 52 and 107.

"The families of Calthorp and Dodd [see 5th bell] have resided in this parish for a very long time. Prior to 50 Edward III. we find Thomas Dod mentioned in an inquisition taken in that year."*

Mr. J. G. Calthrop, mentioned on the tenor bell, died 4th March, 1815, aged 65.

GOULCEBY.

All Saints. 1 Bell.

1. [+ 79] AVE MARI [+ 79] EA GRACEA

(Diam. 26 in.; cracked.)

For Stamp see page 80.

In 1553 "Gawlsbye" possessed "iij gret bells & a sanctus bell."†

GOXHILL.

All Saints. 4 Bells.

1. VENITE EXVLTEMVS DOMINO 1715 [□ 168.]

(Diam. 31¾ in.)

2. [□ 107] glory be to god on high 1624.

(Diam. 33⅜ in.)

3. GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO 1715 W. Trovt Chvrch I. Gillyet Wardens

(Diam. 36 in.)

4. FEARE GOD HONOVR THE KING 1666 [□ 157.]

(Diam. 40⅛ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXIV.*, *XV.*, and *XXIII.*

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* Marrat's *Hist. Linc.* Vol. I. p. 206.

† *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

GRAINSBY.

S. Nicolas. 3 Bells.

1. C. & G. MEARS, FOUNDERS, LONDON 1854.
(Weight 2 cwt. 3 qrs. 27 lbs.)
2. DANIEL HEDDERLY CAST ME 1733.
3. IESVS BE MY SPEED.

In 1553 there were here "iij Gret belles one sanctus bel."*

There is a tradition that the bells now at Waith once hung in this church, and that during some repairs going on in both churches, and with the bells, at the same time, the latter were changed. But inasmuch as all the Waith bells are ancient, and one is dedicated to S. Martin, the titular saint of that church, the evidence they give contradicts the tradition.

For a story about these bells see under Hawerby.

GRAINTHORPE.

S. Clement. 3 Bells.

1. In Multis Annis Resonet Campana Iohannis [▽ 28 □ 30 □ 33.]
2. In Tonat De Celis Vox Campana Michaelis [▽ 28 □ 30 □ 33.]
3. MY ROREING SOUND DOTH WARNING GIVE THAT MEN ON EARTH SHALL NOT ALWAYS LIVE 1761. WM WILSON JOHN CLAYTON CHURCHWARDENS THOMAS HEDDERLY FOUNDER NOTTM.

For Stamps see *Plate III.*

These are fine heavy bells; the 1st and 2nd are noble specimens of their class: all three have had the canons cut off.

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

GRANTHAM.

S. WULFRAM. 10 BELLS AND A PRIEST'S BELL.

1. PACK AND CHAPMAN LONDON FECIT 1775.
(Diam. $34\frac{1}{4}$ in.; Thickness at Rim 3 in.)
2. IF YOU HAVE A JUDICIOUS EAR YOU'LL OWN MY VOICE IS SWEET AND CLEAR. PACK AND CHAPMAN LONDON 1775.
(Diam. $36\frac{1}{2}$ in. thickness $2\frac{3}{16}$ in.)
3. PACK AND CHAPMAN LONDON FECIT 1775.
(Diam. $38\frac{1}{2}$ in.; thickness $2\frac{14}{16}$ in.)
4. GLORIA DEO SOLI. GLORIA PATRI FILIO & SPIRITUI SANCTO THO : EAYRE KETTERING FECIT.
(Diam. $39\frac{1}{2}$ in.: thickness $2\frac{10}{16}$ in.)
5. CŒLORUM CHRISTE PLACEAT TIBI REX SONUS ISTE. OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI T. E. 1752.
(Diam. 41 in.; thickness $2\frac{8}{16}$ in.)
6. OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI. GLORIA PATRI FILIO & SPIRITUI SANCTO. T. EAYRE FECIT 1752.
(Diam. $43\frac{1}{2}$ in.; thickness $2\frac{10}{16}$ in.)
7. OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI CŒLORUM CHRISTE PLACEAT TIBI REX SONUS ISTE. T. EAYRE FECIT 1752.
(Diam. 46 in.; thickness $2\frac{10}{16}$ in.)
8. IN DEI GLORIAM IN ECCLESIÆ COMMODUM. GLORIA PATRI FILIO & SPIRITUI SANCTO. ANNO DOM. 1752.
(Diam. 49 in.; thickness $2\frac{14}{16}$ in.)
9. YE RINGERS ALL WHO PRIZE YOUR HEALTH AND HAPPINESS BE MERRY SOBER WISE AND YOU'LL THE SAME POSSESS. RECAST IN 1775 RICH^{D} EASON VICAR. JNO. CALCROFT & J^{NO} HARDY

CHURCHWARDENS. PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT.

(Diam. 57 in.; thickness $3\frac{5}{16}$ in.)

10. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT. REV^D WILLIAM POTCHETT VICAR JOHN BROOKS ROB^T STORR CHURCHWARDENS 1818.

(Diam. $59\frac{1}{2}$ in.; thickness $3\frac{10}{16}$ in.)

Priest's Bell:—

[+ 2] THE GIFT OF MIS ANN HVRST OF BARABY DOCKTER HVRST WIDOW TO THE CHVRCH OF GRANTHAM 1674.

(Diam. $20\frac{1}{2}$ in.; thickness $1\frac{6}{16}$ in.)

For Stamp see page 52.

In 1640 the bells—then five in number—were rehung, and the chimes were repaired and made to go "perfect and true."*

In 1652 the steeple was much injured by lightning. Mention is made of it in the Records of the Corporation, where it is also notified that "Lord Rosse gives a bell at Belvoir towards a sixth bell, the Sancte bell in the steeple given and added to it to make a complete sixth bell, sutable and tunable with the other five, so as the Town be at no charge Jan. 13, 1652-3."

Sir William Ellys, Bart., who died in 1728 gave £25 to cast the 5th bell.

In 1752 four bells were recast and their frames repaired: two of these bells were inscribed (and the inscriptions were preserved on the new bells):—

Cœlorum Christe placeat tibi Rex sonus iste,

and the ring was then augmented to eight bells. The chimes were also put into good order. Fifty-three contributors gave a total of £516 os. 2d., towards the expenses, the Duke of Rutland heading the list with £52 10s.†

Change ringing was at that time practised in Grantham: there is a Peal Board announcing the ringing of a complete Peal consisting of

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* Street's *Notes on Grantham*, p. 79.

† Turnor's *Grantham*, p. 7.

5040 changes of Grandsire Triples on the 22nd of April, 1764, "being Easter Sunday."

The following "Ancient Belfrey Articles" were then in force:—

He that in Ringing takes delight
  And to this place draws near
These Articles set in his sight
  Must keep if he Rings here.

The first he must observe with care
  Who comes within the door
Must if he chance to curse or swear
  Pay Sixpence to the poor.

And whoso'er a noise does make
  Or idle story tells
Must Sixpence to the Ringers take
  For melting of the Bells.

If any like to smoke or drink
  They must not do so here
Good reason why—just let them think
  This is God's House of Prayer.

Young men that come to see and try
  And do not Ringing use
Must Six Pence give the company
  And that shall them excuse.

He that his hat on's head does keep
  Within this sacred place
Must pay his Six Pence ere he sleep;
  Or turn out with disgrace.

If any one with spurs to's heels
  Rings here at any time
He must for breaking articles
  Pay Six Pence for his crime.

If any overthrow a Bell
  As that by chance he may
Because he minds not Ringing well
  He must his SIX PENCE pay.

Or if a noble minded man
  Comes here to Ring a Bell
A SHILLING is the Sexton's fee
  Who keeps the church so well.

If any should our Parson sneer
  Or Wardens' rules deride
It is a rule of old most clear
  That such sha'n't here abide.

The Sabbath-day we wish to keep
  And come to church to pray
The man who breaks this ancient rule
  Shall never share our pay.

And when the bells are down and ceased
  It should be said or sung
May God preserve the Church and King
  And guide us safely home.

Twenty-two years later—in 1775—the bells were again put into good order, the then 1st, 7th, and 8th were recast, and two new ones added, making a noble ring of ten bells—the only one of that number in the County of Lincoln. The entire cost was £385 13*s.* 3*d.*, towards which (there were 107 contributors) the Duke of Rutland gave £100.*

Change-ringing went on with unabated enthusiasm. There are Peal Boards extant dated 20th June, 1814; 12th January, 1844; 9th November, 1860; 24th December, 1860; 4th February, 1861. At the foot of the last-dated Tablet are the lines:—

* Turnor's *Grantham*, p. 20.

These Sabbath Bells shall still arise
And sound their notes to yonder skies
The living to worship God they'll call
And to the grave they'll summon all.

The Grantham people are justly proud of their bells. "Nothing can be sweeter" (writes the Rev. B. Street) "than the sound of the Grantham bells when heard from the High Dyke road, whence the steeple itself cannot be seen, but where the ear is reminded of its vicinity; for their many voiced peal fills the hollow valley till it overflows with sound which sweeps over the hills and across the table land beyond; or following the wind and the channel of the river, spends itself among the villages Lincolnwards."*

The chimes too have long been favourites. The old chimes played:—

Easter Hymn. Sicilian Mariners.
Ye Banks and Braes. Home, Sweet Home.
Hanover.

They are said to have been "tuneful and cheerful;" and, as Bow Bells boast to have charmed Whittington back to his apprenticeship in London; so Grantham chimes, heard unexpectedly, and for the first time, decided a wavering boy to become an apprentice in Grantham, where he has since grown old.†

In 1818 the tenor was again recast; it was inscribed:—

In wedlock's bands all ye who join
With hands your hearts unite
So shall our tuneful tongues combine
To laud the nuptual rite.

Recast in 1775 Richard Eason Vicar, John Calcraft and John Hardy Churchwardens. Pack and Chapman, London, fecit.

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* Street's *Notes on Grantham*, p. 78. † Ib. p. 78.

And in 1876 Messrs. Gillett and Bland of Croydon were employed to erect a new and large clock, St. Mary's of Cambridge chimes, for striking the quarters on the 4th, 5th, 6th, and 9th bells, and to thoroughly restore the old chiming machine. They replaced the five old tunes on the barrels, and added three new ones, namely, "Life let us cherish," "O rest in the Lord," and (for use on the anniversaries of the Queen's Birthday, Accession, &c., &c.,) "God save the Queen." The chimes play every three hours, day and night, namely, at three, six, nine, and twelve o'clock.

There are some rules for the guidance of the ringers, drawn up in 1872.

The Rev. R. Easton (see 9th bell) died in the year 1817, when he was succeeded, as vicar, by the Rev. William Potchett (see 10th bell) who held the living until 1856, when he resigned it in favour of the Rev. G. Maddison. Mr. Potchett died 13th November, 1859, aged eighty-five years.

Mrs. Ann Hurst, the donor of the Priest's bell, was the widow of the Rev. Thomas Hurst, D.D., Rector of Barrowby, from which living he was ejected during the troublous times of the Civil War. He was a great benefactor to the town of Grantham.*

GRANTHAM.

The Roman Catholic Chapel, dedicated to S. Mary, has a "large fine-toned bell" which was hung in May, 1834, and "rung for the first time on Sunday the 18th day of that month (Whitsunday) to announce the celebration of mass."†

GRASBY.

All Saints. 4 Bells.

1. J. TAYLOR & CO FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1873.
(Diam. 31 in.)

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* See Street's *Notes on Grantham*, pp. 155, 162. † Saunders, Vol. II. p. 306.

2. [+ 165] 1669 I : G I : M W : S [□ 167.]
(Diam. 33 in.)

3. IN MEMORY OF ELIZABETH TENNYSON DIED 1865 PS. 103 : 8 VERSE J. TAYLOR & CO FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1819.
(Diam. 36 in.)

4. IN MEMORY OF HENRY SELLWOOD DIED 1867 MICAH 6 CHAP. 8 VERSE. J. TAYLOR & CO FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1869.
(Diam. 40 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXIV.*

The 1st bell was previously inscribed:—

Thomas Sprote gafe me 1500 [▽ 137.]

Elizabeth Tennyson (see 3rd bell) was mother of the late vicar—the Rev. Charles Turner;—and of Alfred Tennyson, Esq., Poet Laureate, Patron of the Living.

Henry Sellwood (see 4th bell) was father of Mrs. Charles Turner, and of Mrs. Alfred Tennyson.

Prior to 1869 there were two bells only. There was formerly a Sanctus bell but it has not been heard of for thirty years: it is said to have been exchanged about that time for some new bell ropes.

GRAYINGHAM.

S. Radegund. 3 Bells.

1. [□ 107] [▽ 127] S [+ 140] S [+ 140.]
(Diam. 30½ in.)

2. [+ 57] ISTA : CAMPANA : SANCTI : IOHANNIS : EWANGELISTI
(Diam. 33½ in.)

3. IESVS BE OVR SPEED 1640 A. B.
(Diam. 34½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XV.*, pages 114 and 118, and *Plate VII.*, and for drawings of letters and intervening stop on the 2nd bell see figs. 180 to 184 inclusive, on *Plates XXVI.* and *XXVII.*

In 1553 there were here "iij greatt bells j sanctus bell."*

The 2nd bell has an inscription in letters which I have not met with elsewhere. The substitution of W for V is not uncommon, particularly in the south. The V in the word "ovr" on the 3rd bell has a small R inside it reversed. [J. T. F.]

The bells were rehung in 1868.

GREETHAM.

ALL SAINTS. 1 BELL.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 18 in.)

When the Inventory of Church Goods belonging to this parish was taken on 19th August, 6 Ed. VI. (1552) the bells and their value were given thus:—

It' iij bells in the steple ..... iiij*li.*
It' ij handebells ..... xij*d.*†

GREETWELL.

ALL SAINTS. 1 BELL.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 21½ in.)

GRETFORD.

S. MARTIN. 4 BELLS.

1. OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI ANNO DOM. 1732.

(Diam. 26 in.)

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{5}\frac{3}{3}$, P. R. Off.

† *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 78, P. R. Off.

2. [+ 90] PRAISE THE LORD 1593.
(Diam. 28½ in.)
3. EDWD ARNOLD LEICESTER, FECIT 1787.
(Diam. 31¼ in.)
4. OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI. EAYRE KETTERING FECIT ANNO DOM. 1732.
(Diam. 33¾ in.)

For Stamp see page 87.

In 1565-6 the churchwardens reported that "one sacringe bell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been "stolen awaie," and that they had then no handbells.*

There is room for a fifth bell which is now lacking.

GRIMOLDBY.

S. Edith. 3 Bells.

1. JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON FOUNDER.
(Diam. 33½ in.)
2. [+ 12] Sum Rosa Pulsata Mundi Caterina Vocata [▽ 11.]
(Diam. 35½ in.)
3. [▽ 137] Sc̄a maria [□ *a fleur-de-leys.*]
(Diam. 38¾ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates II.* and *XX.*

The capital letters on the 2nd bell are crowned, so is the letter S on the 3rd bell. The canons have been cut off the 2nd and 3rd, and the 1st cast without any. The present 2nd was formerly the treble, but the then 3rd being cracked, James Harrison cast a new treble instead. The cage (writes Mr. Fowler who visited these bells) is original, but enclosed in an outer and slighter arrangement of straight pieces, the whole resting on large timber brackets, and destitute of flooring, as are most of the cages hereabout.

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 91.

GRIMSBY GREAT.

S. James. 8 Bells.

1. CELORUM CHRISTE PLACEAT TIBI REX SONUS ISTE
(Diam. 30½ in.)
2. J. V. SHELLEY ESQ. M.P. : R. H. GRONOW ESQ : H. W. HOBHOUSE ESQ.
(Diam. 30½ in.)
3. THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD YARBOROUGH. RICH^{D} THOROLD ESQ. 1830.
(Diam. 32 in.)
4. CHAS. WOOD ESQ., M.P. : CAPT^{N} GEORGE HARRIS R.N : C.B : M.P : 1830.
(Diam. 33½ in.)
5. GEORGE FIESCHI HENEAGE, ESQ : COLONEL CHALONER BISSE CHALLONER. THIS PEAL OF SIX BELLS WAS CAST BY WILLIAM DOBSON, DOWNHAM, NORFOLK, 1830.
(Diam. 37 in.)
6. B. HARRISON ESQ. MAYOR; W^{M} BANCROFT, JA^{S} CHAPMAN, CHAMBERLAINS, GEO. BABB, ESQ. TOWN CLERK. 1830.
(Diam. 38½ in.)
7. GEO. WHITLAM, W^{M} MARSHALL, GEO. WARBURTON, ROB^{T} JOYS, W^{M} BENNETT, FRANCIS EPWORTH. 1830.
(Diam. 43 in.)
8. LAUDO DEUM, CONGREGO CLERUM, PLEBEM VOCO, FUNERA PLANGO, G. OLIVER, MINISTER; JN^{O} LUSBY, W^{M} SMITH, CHURCHWARD^{NS} 1830.
(Diam. 48 in.)

In 1553 "greatt grymsby S. James" possessed "iiij greatt belles j sanctus bell."*

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

That probably continued the number until the year 1830, when [see 5th bell] a ring of six was cast, at a cost of £385 raised by voluntary contributions, which was speedily augmented to eight as the following receipt signed by the founder testifies:—

> Received July 1st 1831 of Mr. John Skelton the sum of Ninety Pounds for two additional Bells, Hangings, and Frames to increase the Peal of Six Bells in the Parish Church of Great Grimsby to Eight.
>
> £90 . 0 . 0 Will : Dobson.

The bells were rehung in 1857; soon after which date the tower being considered unsafe all ringing was given up: a chiming apparatus has been fixed, since which, two of the bells have unfortunately been cracked.

GRIMSBY GREAT.

The ancient church of S. Mary, which was pulled down in 1585, contained, in 1553, "iiij greatt belles one sanctus bell."*

GRIMSBY GREAT.

S. Barnabas. 1 Bell.

This iron church, erected in 1874, has one small bell.

GRIMSBY GREAT.

S. Andrew. 1 Bell.

1. VOCE MEÂ LAUDO DOMINUM PRO PESTE FUGATÂ : HIC ÆGRIS ANIMIS, CHRISTE, MEDERE PRECOR
D.D. CHR : EP. LINC. 1871.
(Diam. 26 in.)

---

* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

This bell was given to this new church (consecrated 29th September, 1870) by the present Bishop of Lincoln, as a thankoffering to Almighty God for his goodness in enabling the parochial clergy then resident in the town (the Revs. R. Ainslie, W. Maples, J. P. Young, and G. C. Hilbers) to labour faithfully and zealously among their flocks during the then recent severe visitation of small pox, and for preserving their lives in the peril to which they were exposed. Cases of small pox had appeared before, but in January, 1871, it spread until it was estimated there were about one thousand cases of different degrees of virulence in the town during that year. Before it finally disappeared the number of deaths (including some in New Clee) arising from it was said to have been over two hundred.

GRIMSBY · LITTLE.

S. Edith. 1 Bell.

1. 1850.

(Diam. 17 in.)

GUNBY.

S. Nicolas. 3 Bells.

1. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON GEORGE OSBORNE RECTOR. AD. 1853 GLORIA IN EXCELSIS.

(Diam. 20½ in.)

2. [+ 79] IN : YE : NAM : OF : YE : TRYNYTE : NICHOLAS : BEL : MEN : CAL : ME

(Diam. 22¼ in.)

3. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON. RENEWED A.D. 1853 LAUS DEO.

(Diam. 24¾ in.)

For Stamp see page 80.

258 GUNBY S. PETER.

S. Peter. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 22¾ in.)

2. [+ 79 □ □] CVLCIS [□] SITO [□] MELIS [□] VOCOR [□ 76] CAMPANA [□] GABRIELIS [□ □]

(Diam. 24 in.)

3. [+ 107] [▽ 127] SR JOY IXT

(Diam. 28 in.)

Priest's Bell:—

W R
T C 1634

(Diam. 11 in.; letters incised.)

For Stamps see pages 80 and 79, *Plate XV.*, and page 114; the other stamps (unnumbered) are described on page 81.

In 1566 the churchwardens, referring to "monuments of Superstition" belonging to this church in Queen Mary's time, reported "handbells . . . wee had non . . . . a sacringe bell defacid A° pm̃o Elizabth."*

260 GUNNESS [or Gunhouse].

—? 1 Bell.

1. 1662.

(Diam. 15 in.)

261 HABROUGH.

S. Margaret. 3 Bells.

1, 2. 1825.

(Diams. 26, 28½ in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 92.

3. W. MABLETHORP CHURCH WARDEN 1825 J. HARRISON FOUNDER.

(Diam. 32 in.)

In 1566 the churchwardens, referring to goods belonging to the church in Queen Mary's time, reported:—

> Itm̃ o^r handbels . . . . wth a sacringe bell and the rest appartaining to the popishe service sold and defacid iiij^or yeare agoo."*

HACCONBY.

S. ANDREW. 4 BELLS AND A PRIEST'S BELL.

1. [+ 116] FEARE GOD AND KEEPE HIS LAVE 1596 [□ 113]
2. [+ 116] GOD SAVE OVR QVEENE 1596 [□ 113.]
3. [+ 116] GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1596 [□ 113.]
4. IHESVS [+ 128 ▽ 127 □ 107.]

(Diam. 35 in.; turned.)

Priest's Bell:—

Blank.

(Diam. 16 in.; unhung; on the sill of the bell-chamber window; apparently ancient.)

For Stamps see page 107, *Plates XVI.* and *XIX.*, page 114 and *Plate XV.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "two hand belles," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been "broken in peces and sold to Johnne chamberlaine," and that "one sacringe bell wch Thomas Carter had and he haith made a horse bell therof to hange at a horses eare."

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 93. † Ib. p. 95.

HACEBY.

— ? 2 BELLS AND A PRIEST'S BELL.

1. THOMAS NORRIS CAST ME 1628.
(Diam. 24 in.)

2. [+90] S BARBARA [▽ 92.]
(Diam. 28½ in.)

Priest's Bell (lying on the floor of Tower; clapper gone; canons damaged.)
Blank.
(Diam. 9½ in.)

For Stamps see pages 87 and 88.

HACKTHORNE.

S. MICHAEL. 1 BELL.

1. [+121] ora : pronobis : beate : edmunde [▽ 119.]
(Diam. 30 in.; cracked.)

For Stamps see *Plate XVIII.*

HAGNABY.

S. ANDREW. 1 BELL.

1. 1781.
(Diam. 15 in.)

In 1553 there were here "ij great belles j sants bell."*

HAGWORTHINGHAM.

HOLY TRINITY. 8 BELLS.

1. 1824.
(Diam. 26½ in.)

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{54}$, P. R. Off.

2, 3. JOHN BRIANT & J. CABOURN, HERTFORD, FECIT 1802.

(Diams. 27½, 28 in.)

4. J. WINGATE C : W : THREE BELLS ADDED BY SUBSCRIPTION. JOHN BRIANT & J. CABOURN HERTFORD FECIT 1802.

(Diam. 29 in.)

5. [+ 116] AVE MARIA

(Diam. 30 in.)

6. Feare God [□ 107] 1627 [▽ 108.]

(Diam. 33 in.)

7. [+ 162] Trinitate Sacra Fit Campana Beata M. S. M 1686 [▽ 169.]

(Diam. 37 in.)

8. JAMES HARRISON, FOUNDER, BARTON 1824.

(Diam. 43 in.)

For Stamps see page 107, and *Plates XV.*, *XXIV.* and *XXV.*

In 1552 the bells then belonging to Hagworthingham were thus entered and valued in an Inventory of Church Goods then taken :—

Itm̃ iij bells ..... v*li**

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "hand bells . . . wth such like trifles" belonging to this church in Queen Mary's time were defaced in the 2nd year of Elizabeth's reign; and that "a sacringe bell" had been "sold to one Storie of Connisbie brasier" in the same year.†

HAINTON.

S. Mary. 3 Bells.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 29½ in.)

2. JESVS BE OVR SPEED W S. H W 1688.

(Diam. 30½ in.)

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 78, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 95.

3. [+ 75] Nomen Sanctorum Geret Hec Campana Puerorum.
(Diam. 33½ in.)

For Stamp see page 79.

HALE MAGNA.

S. John Baptist. 4 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. [+ 116] IHESVS [□ 118] AE [□ 118] OVRE [□ 118] SPEED [□ 118] 1589.
(Diam. 34 in.)

2, 4. GLORY TO GOD ON HIGH 1652 [□ 157.]
(Diams. 37, 45 in.; tenor broken; not used.) -26

3. sancti leonardi [▽ 124.]
(Diam. 41 in.)

Priest's Bell :—
[▽ 127.]
(Diam. 15¼ in.; cracked, and not used.) -27

For Stamps see pages 107 and 108, *Plate XXIII.*, and pages 111 and 114.

These bells are very difficult of access; the tenor and priest's bell have no ropes, and very few of the parishioners know that they have more than three bells. On the frame of the 3rd bell is (in capital letters)

William Hutchinson & J. Creasey Churchwardens Dec 12. 1810.

Large portions of the lip of the tenor bell are broken off, and lie in the Vestry. The Priest's bell hangs close by the south window of the tower. It is most probably the ancient Sanctus bell.

HALTHAM-ON-BAIN.

S. Benedict. 3 Bells.

1, 2. TOBIAS NORRIS CAST ME 1664.
(Diams. 27, 29 in.)

3. [+ 135] IHV [◻ 110] MARIA [◻ 112]
CAMPANA [▽ 137.]
(Diam. 33 in.)

For Stamps see page 116, and *Plates XVI.* and *XX.*

HALTON EAST.

S. PETER. 3 BELLS AND A PRIEST'S BELL.

1. [+ 162] Sit Nomen Benedictum W.S. 1678.
(Diam. 32½ in.)

2. [+ 121] sum : rosa : pulsata : mundi : maria : bocata [▽ 119.]
(Diam. 34½ in.)

3. [+ 116] GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1613.
(Diam. 37 in.)

Priest's Bell :—

[◻ 141 ◻ 142 ◻ 144 ◻ 145 ◻ 142 ◻ 144 ◻ 145.]

For Stamps see *Plates XXIV.* and *XVIII.*, page 107, and *Plate XXI.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "a hand bell," belonging to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been defaced, and "putt to pfayne vse," and also that "a litle bell called a sacre bell" had been sold to "Edward both wch is defaced in ye first yere of ye reigne of our quene that now ys."*

The Priest's bell, which has upon it a series of Tudor Badges, formerly hung in the north window or aperture of the top-stage of the tower. It was found several years ago unhung in the bell-chamber, and brought into the chancel; it is now lying in the north aisle. It should not be lost.

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 98.

HALTON HOLGATE.

S. Andrew. 6 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1, 3. J. TAYLOR & CO BELLFOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1867.

(Diams. 27, 29½ in.)

2. HENRY ⁝ PENN ⁝ MADE ⁝ ME ⁝ AND ⁝ ALL ⁝ FELLOWS ⁝ 1717.

(Diam. 29 in.)

4. ROBERT : HARBY : WILLIAM : MAWER : JOHN : CLARKE : JOHN : INGOLMELS ·:·

(Diam. 32½ in.)

5. LEONARD ⁝ WHITLEY ⁝ JOHN ⁝ WHARF ⁝ CHVRCH-WARDENS ⁝ 1717.

(Diam. 37 in.)

6. REV. Wm BRACKENBURY RECTOR JOHN WRAY Ch WARDEN Thos OSBORN DOWNHAM NORFOLK FOUNDER 1791 ⁝:·

(Diam. 42½ in.)

Priest's Bell:—

Blank.

In 1553 there were at "Haltone" "iiij gret bells in the steeple."*

Holles says that at Haulton Holgate "In Fenestra Occident' ad dextram Campanilis

. . . . . .

Orate pro pulsat' Campanar. qui fecerunt Fenestram."†

The Rev. Wm. Brackenbury (see 6th bell) of Jesus College, Cambridge, B.A. 1777, M.A. 1784, was presented to the Rectory of this parish in 1779, and to the Vicarage of Humbleby in 1793; he died 26th August, 1824, aged 70 years.

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* Parcel 3 3/54, P. R. Off. † *Harl. MSS.* 6829, p. 217.

HALTON WEST.

S. Etheldreda. 3 Bells.

1. VENITE EXULTEMUS DOMINO 1710 [□ 168.]
(Diam. 26¾ in.)

2. GLORIA IN ALTISSIMIS DEO 1710 [□ 168.]
(Diam. 28 in.)

3. [+ 22] IHC [□ 23] CAMPANA [□ 23] BEATE [□ 23] MARIE [□ 23] IOHANNES [□ 23] POTTER [□ 23] ME FECIT.
(Diam. 30½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXIV.* and page 71.

In 1553 there were here "iij great belles one sanctus bell." * Of these only one now remains—the 3rd.

IHC, the symbol of the Holy Name IESVS seems to have been sometimes used in bell-inscriptions in the same way as at the beginning of charms or spells. John Potter was probably a Norwich founder (see p. 71) and this is a matter of interest in connection with the fact that the Bishop of Norwich is Patron of the benefice [J. T. F.]. There is a local Tradition that this bell "originally belonged to Norwich Priory."

HAMMERINGHAM.

All Saints. 1 Bell and a Priest's Bell.

1. [+ 75] TRINITATE SACRA FIAT HEC CAMPANA BEATA
(Diam. 22 in.)

---

* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off.

Priest's Bell :—

Blank.

(Diam. 11 in. cracked and useless.)

For Stamp see page 79.

When the Inventory of Church Goods belonging to "Hamryngham" was made on the 19th of August, 6 Ed. VI. (1552) the bells and their value were thus entered :—

Inp'i ij Bells	liij*s.* iiij*d.*
It' one sanctus bell	v*s.*
It' ij handbells	xvj*d.*

HANNAY.

S. Andrew. 1 Bell.

1. 1754.

(Diam. 16 in.)

HAREBY.

SS. Peter and Paul. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 15 in.)

In 1553 the ancient church of Hareby (the present is a modern one) possessed "ij great belles j sanctes bell."*

In 1565-6 the churchwardens reported that "a hand bell and a pece of a hand bell" belonging to this church in Queen Mary's time had been "sold by the whole pishe to Sr Roberte Mynnett psonne ther" which he had exchanged for a brasen mortar; and that "a sacringe bell" had been "made awaie and defaced in a° 2 Elizabeth."†

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{54}$, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 99.

HARLAXTON.

SS. Mary and Peter. 5 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. THE GIFT OF GEO: DE LIGNE GREGORY ESQ^R LORD OF THE MANOR OF HARLAXTON 1820.
(Diam. 30 in.)

2. I sweetly toling men do call to taste on meats that feeds the soole 1604.
(Diam. 30¼ in.)

3. IH'S NAZARENVS REX IVDEORVM FILI DEI MISERERE MEI 1635 [▽ 99.]
(Diam. 31½ in.)

4. [□ 107] [+ 140] S [+ 140] S [+ 140 + 140] S [▽ 127.]
(Diam. 34½ in.)

5. + TAYLOR & SON FOUNDERS S^T NEOTS : 1820 + ROB^T COX JUN^R & NICHOLAS HEARBY C. WARDENS O O O O
(Diam. 38 in.; key G.)

Priest's Bell:—

Blank.
(Diam. 14 in.; cracked.)

For Stamps see page 91, *Plate XV.* and pages 118 and 114.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that they had neither "hand belles" nor "sacring belles" "in quene maries tyme."*

Prior to 1820 there were only 4 bells: the tenor was then inscribed:—

All men that hear my mournful sound
repent before you lie in ground 1639.

The Manor of Harlaxton came into the possession of George Gregory, Esq., upon his marriage with Mrs. Anne Orton (described in the Parish Registers as "Lady of the Manor of Harlaxton") on the

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 99.

8th September, 1738. Their first child, George De Ligne, the donor of the treble bell here, was born on the 1st of May, 1740, and baptized on the 4th of the same month. He succeeded to the estates upon the death of his father in 1758, died 24th August, 1822, aged 82 years, and was buried in the chancel of Harlaxton Church.*

There is a small grass close in this parish called the Bell close. The Parish Clerk for the time being occupies it for ringing the Curfew at 8 p.m. Formerly a bell was also rung at 4 a.m. but that has been discontinued because it is said to have disturbed some of the parishioners earlier than was agreeable to them.

HARMSTON.

ALL SAINTS. 8 BELLS.

1, 2. GIFT OF SAMUEL THOROLD ESQUIRE 1799 THOMAS OSBORN FOUNDER DOWNHAM NORFOLK.
(Diams. 27, 28 in; both out of order.)

3. SING YE MERRILY UNTO GOD. OSBORN FOUNDER 1798.
(Diam: 29 in.)

4. PEACE AND GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD OSBORN FOUNDER 1798.
(Diam. 30 in.)

5, 6. GIFT OF SAMUEL THOROLD ESQUIRE T. OSBORN FECIT 1798.
(Diams. 31, 33, in.)

7. LET US LIFT UP OUR VOICE WITH JOY.
(Diam. 36 in.)

8. CLARK TOYNBEE CHURCHWARDEN 1798. OSBORN FOUNDER DOWNHAM NORFOLK.
(Diam. 39 in.)

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* *Harlaxton Par. Reg.*

Samuel Thorold, Esq., (the youngest son of Sir John Thorold, eighth Baronet,) Lord of the Manor of Harmston, and benefactor to these bells, was born 29th December, 1749, died—in consequence of injuries received the preceding day by being overturned in his carriage—19th January, 1820, and was buried in this church on the 26th of the same month. His eldest daughter and heiress Ann Eliza (baptized here on 26th June, 1772) married, on the 6th July, 1797, Benjamin Hart, Esq., "son of the Rev. Joseph Hart minister of the Gospel in Jewin St. Chapel London." He assumed the name of Thorold, and the present possessor of Harmston—Benjamin Hart Thorold, Esq.—is his son.*

HARPSWELL.

S. Chad. 2 Bells.

1. Sancte Andrea Ora Pro Nobis [▽ 27 □ 28 ▽ 29.]
(Diam. 34 in.)
2. Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis [▽ 27 □ 28 ▽ 29.]
(Diam. 35 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate III.*

HARRINGTON.

S. Mary. 4 Bells.

1. JOSEPH WILSON CH. W. 1732.
(Diam. 12½ in.)

2, 3. 1814.
(Diams. 21, 22 in.)

4. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1814.
(Diam. 24 in.)

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* Harmston *Par. Reg.* and gravestone in Church; also see *Gent. Mag.* Vol. LXVI. p. 445, and Vol. XC. p. 187.

In 1552, when the Inventory of Church Goods belonging to this parish was taken, the following entry was made respecting the bells and their value :—

It' ij bells of one raygn one sanctus bell ij hand bells
& ij litle sacryng bells ..... xxxiiis. iiij*d*.*

HATCLIFFE.

S. Mary. 1 Bell.

1. [+ 51] A [□ 53] AVE [□ 53] M [□ 53] ΩΩ [□ 53]
A [□ 53] RIA

(Diam. 27 in.)

For Stamp see *Plate VII.*

In 1553 there were here "iij gret bells."† Of those one only now remains. It is a curious *Ave Maria* bell. The W (intended for a V) and the E, are misplaced as shown in the printing. The initial cross, stop, and letters, are peculiar, the latter are very boldly formed gothic capitals.

HATTON.

S. Stephen or S. Barnabas. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 16 in.)

The Parish books give the following information :—

1733.	P^d^ for ale when the Bell was took down	00 . 00 . 06
1736.	Spickes and Stapels for the Bels	0 . 2 . 3
	Pad for the new Bel wheel & fastening the frames and mending the other wheel	1 . 0 . 0
	for the man's meat and my Labouer	0 . 1 . 6
1820.	Dec. 16. Paid for the Bell	4 . 4 . 0

[This is no doubt the present bell.]

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 78, P. R. Off. † *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

It is traditionally believed that there were four bells here which were sold to defray, in part, the cost of repairs and alterations at the church in 1769. There is no record of this in the Church Books, but the above entries tend to corroborate the tradition, and in rebuilding the church, in 1871, the foundations of a tower were discovered. With regard to the sale of the old bells, there is a saying here (not uncommon in other places):—

The poor Hatton people
Sold the bells to build up the Steeple,

but, it is believed, no steeple was built.

HAUGH.

S. Leonard. 1 Bell.

1. SOLI DEO GLORIA 1638.
A B
(Diam. 14 in.)

HAUGHAM.

All Saints. 2 Bells.

1, 2. THOMAS MEARS BELLFOUNDER LONDON 1839.
(Diams. 25; 27½ in.)

HAWERBY.

S. Margaret. 2 Bells.

1. W. S. 1666.
(Diam. 20 in.)

2. Blank.
(Diam. 20½ in.)

The Indented Inventory of Church Goods here in 1553 is unfortunately indistinct in the part referring to the bells:—". . . gret belles j santus bell."*

The bells of North Thoresby and of Grainsby (two adjacent villages, with three bells each) are supposed to ask each other "Who ring best?" "Who ring best?" and Hawerby bells to reply "We do," "We do."

HAXEY.

S. Nicolas. 6 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. WILLIAM DARRAND & GERVAS KILHAM CHURCHWARDENS 1815.
(Diam. 35 in.)

2. GLORY TO GOD ON HIGH 1653 [□ 157.]
(Diam. 36 in.)

3. D HEDDERLY FOVNDER. IO HOOLE VIC : R. TAYLER RIC BROWN C. W. 1723.
(Diam. 37 in.; cracked.)

4. [□ 107] [▽ 127] personet hec celis dulcissima vox gabrielis.
(Diam. 40 in.)

5. [□ 107] [▽ 127] Celorum xte placeat tibi rex sonus iste [□ 133.]
(Diam. 44 in.)

6. [□ 107] [▽ 127] Hec Campana Sacra Fiat Trinitate Beata.
(Diam. 49 in.)

Priest's Bell:—

Daniel Hedderly 1733.

For Stamps see *Plates XXIII.* and *XV.*, and pages 114 and 115.

In 1553 there were "v gret belles one santus bell."†

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off. † *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off.

The 4th of the present bells was probably used for the *Angelus* (see p. 211). The 5th has a figure of the Blessed Virgin with the Infant Jesus (see p. 115). The 6th has curiously ornamented capitals. These three are from the same foundry, but they are all different in the lettering. They may be coeval with the tower, which is Perpendicular in style. These bells are celebrated for their excellency of tone and for the distance at which they can be heard.

The Rev. Joseph Hoole became Vicar of Haxey in 1712; he resigned the living in 1736, when he was collated to the Rectory of S. Ann's, Manchester.

Here are a set of chimes which play every three hours; the following are the tunes:—

I. Life let us cherish.
II. A March—"They marched through the town with their banners so gay."
III. Keble's Evening Hymn.

These tunes were arranged about eighteen years ago, when the chimes were renewed.

The following Ringers' Rules are suspended in the belfry:—

All you that here intend to ring
Mind well before you do begin
If you ring in Great Coat, Spurs or Hat
Sixpence you pay stright down for that
If you break Stay or quarrel breed
Twelve pence you pay right down with Speed
If you be Fair and do no Wrong
Then unto us you shall belong.

Mr. John Knowlson } Churchwardens
Mr. John Curtis } in ye year 1785..
Jas. Morris, Script.

There is an estate belonging to the church, of which the vicar and churchwardens are trustees, from that source the ringers receive:—

5 at £2 . 18 . 0 each per ann.	£14 . 10 . 0
1 at £3 . 3 . 0 for tenor bell.....	3 . 3 . 0
Curfew bell per ann.	2 . 10 . 0
Sexton for chimes	4 . 4 . 0

The ancient Churchwardens' Accounts were unfortunately destroyed as worthless some years ago. The only book in existence commences in 1815. From it the vicar—the Rev. John Johnstone—has kindly made the following extracts:—

			s. d.
1815.	Oct. 4.	Allowances on taking up Great Bell ...	7 . 6
	Dec. 23.	To B. Templeton & J. Tinker 1 yrs Chiming Wages	2 . 16 . 0
	Dec. 27.	Ringing on King's birthday	1 . 0
1816.	Jan. 5.	Going to the canal for the new bell	10 . 6
		Carriage of the same from Barton	10 . 6
	Jan. 8.	Attendance 3 days when fixing Bell.....	7 . 6

HEALING.

SS. Peter and Paul. 4 Bells.

1. [+ 165] THE GIFT OF CHAMPION DYMOCK 1685.
(Diam. 25½ in.)
2. [+ 165] THE GIFT OF SVR FRA LAWLEY A FRA COVENTRY ES 1685.
(Diam. 27½ in.)
3. JESVS BE OVR SPEED 1633.
(Diam. 30¾ in.)
4. ANNO DOMINI 1573.
I B
(Diam. 35½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXIV.*

In 1553 there were here "iij gret belles."*

* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

The donor of the 1st bell, in 1685, was Sir Charles Dymock, Knight, who was Champion at the Coronation of King James the Second in that year. What connection he had, if any, with this parish I cannot learn. He died about the year 1688, but the precise date is unknown. The Parish Register of Scrivelsby—the seat of the Dymock family—is imperfect from 1657 to 1722, four leaves being crumpled up, and the writing obliterated, apparently, by the action of heat. A subsequent Rector did his best to remedy the defect by collecting the various entries relating to the Dymock family, and transcribing them on a piece of paper which he pasted on the cover of the Register: he headed his collection thus:—

> Below is what I can find in the Register for Scrivelsby relating to the H^ble^ Family of Dymoks.

He, however, gives no entry of the burial of the donor of the Healing bell; neither do the memorial stones at Scrivelsby give the information as to date, although the spot of his sepulture is recorded in the following inscription on a plate on the floor of the church on the south side of the altar-table:—

> Under this stone lyes Sir Cha. Dymoke K^t^
> Who was Champion at the Coronation of
> King James II. on his left hand lyes
> The Lady Dymoke, next her the Honourable
> Lewis Dymoke their youngest son, next
> To him lyes Captain Dymoke the eldest
> Son of Sir Charles who died in France
> Next to him Mrs Dymoke daughter
> of Sir Charles & at the head of Sir Charles lyes
> Mrs Eliz. Dymoke the youngest
> daughter of Sir Charles Dymoke.

Sir Francis Lawley (see 2nd bell) was the son of Sir Thomas Lawley, first Baronet, by Anne his wife, the daughter of John Manning, Esq., of Hackney, Middlesex. He died in October, 1696.

Francis Coventry, Esq. (who was a joint donor with Sir Francis Lawley of the 2nd bell) was buried here: he died on the 26th August, 1687, as is testified by a large slab on the floor of the church. In the Parish Register he is described as the grandson of "Domin^s^ Coventrye fuit Custos Sigilli Mag: Regno Caroli Martyris Beatæ Memoriæ."

The Rector writes:—From some place or other the following note has been obtained:—

> The smallest bell sold by the Parishioners was given by one of the Alcock family.

It would thus appear that there were five bells here formerly, or perhaps the "smallest bell" was the Sanctus.*

HEAPHAM.

All Saints. 2 Bells.

1. [+47] SUM RO SA [□48] PUL SA TA [□48] MUN DI [□48] MA RI A [□48] VO CA TA [□46]
(Diam. $24\frac{1}{4}$ in.)

2. [+165] SOLI [□167] DEO [□167] GLORIA [□167] I R [□167] W : S. 1663.
(Diam. $27\frac{1}{2}$ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates VI.*, and *XXIV.*

The Indented Inventory of Church Goods belonging to this parish in 1553, is unfortunately, as regards the bells, undecipherable.†

These small bells are chimed by means of levers instead of wheels. The letters and stamps on the 1st are very small, and are like those on the 1st and 2nd bells at Scampton.

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* I am much obliged to the Rectors of Healing and Scrivelsby for much of the above information, and for the extracts from the Parish Registers.

† *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off.

HECKINGTON.

S. Andrew. 8 Bells.

1. THIS TREBLE BELL THE GIFT OF EDWARD GODSON NOVEMBER 1880. MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON.

(Diam. 30 in.)

2. THIS 2ND BELL THE GIFT OF EDWARD GODSON NOVEMBER 1880 MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON.

(Diam. 31 in.)

3. MR William Taylor Churchwarden HECKINGTON 1773.

(Diam. 33½ in.)

4. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH [□ 157] 1651.

(Diam. 35½ in.)

5, 8. CAST BY JOHN WARNER AND SONS LONDON 1859.

[*Royal* ▽ *Arms.*]

PATENT.

(Diams 38; 48½ in.)

6. WILLIAM TAYELER LOVES RINGING SO WELL 5 POVND OF METAL HEE GAVE TO THE BELL [□ 157] 1633.

(Diam. 40½ in.)

7. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1824. THE REV. HENRY BRESTOWE BENSON VICAR WILLIAM GODSON THOMAS ALMOND SENR CHURCHWARDENS.

(Diam. 45½ in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XXIII.*

The 5th, 7th and 8th bells were previously inscribed :—

5. Glory to God on high by powers heavenly to all eternity 1651. ▽
7. Let peace and charity unite Christs family in perfect harmony 1651.
8. All men that heare my movrnfvl sovnd repent before yov lye in grovnd. Ex dono Gvlielmi Taylor ferrariæ ▽

Marrat* says the shields on the former 5th and 8th bells bore "3 Crescents 2 and 1;" more probably 3 horse-shoes.

The friend who visited this belfry for me writes:—"Many a dispute and wager has taken place in the village with regard to the figure on the 6th bell, between the words 'well' and 'pound.' Tradition says 40, and the sexton, who accompanied me, said I need not trouble to copy it as he *knew* it was 40; but he was at a loss to make out that number when I showed him the rubbing." The explanation is that the arabic numeral 5 is of the form not uncommon at that time when its shape was not as defined as at present: it is merely a curved line, very like that used by the French now: and the inscription records that William Tayler gave, not five pounds weight of metal, as the villagers would read it, but, £5. worth of metal, which at that time would be a substantial contribution to the cost of the bell.

Mr. Edward Godson, the kind donor of the two new treble bells to make up a ring of eight, is a member of an old and valued family in Heckington, where he and his ancestors have been landowners for many years. Mr. William Godson, whose name is on the 7th bell, was his uncle, and "William Tayeler" who loved ringing so well that he gave £5. worth of metal to the 6th bell, was his great great uncle on his mother's side. The new bells were dedicated by the Bishop Suffragan of Nottingham, on Tuesday, the 1st March, 1881, after the old bells had been rehung by the Committee of the Heckington Flower Show from funds which had accumulated in their hands.

On the walls of the belfry is a great number of names, initials, and dates cut in the stone: probably those of ringers: they date from 1677.

HEIGHINGTON.

—? 4 Bells.

1. PROSPERITY TO THIS TOWN [□ 85] 1713.
(Diam. 22¾ in.)

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* *Hist. Linc.* III. p. 222.

2. PEACE AND GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD [▫ 85] 1713.
(Diam. 24 in.)
3. GOD SAVE THE CHURCH AND QUEEN [▫ 85] 1713.
(Diam. 25¼ in.)
4. TIMOTHY PIKE BENEFACTOR [▫ 85] 1713.
(Diam. 27½ in.; all without canons.)

For Stamp see page 84.
As to Timothy Pike see under Washingborough.

HELPRINGHAM.

S. ANDREW. 5 BELLS.

1. JOHN SPRINGTHORPE C.W DANIEL HEDDERLY FOVND 1758.
(Diam. 32¾ in.)
2. ALL GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH 1707.
(Diam. 35 in.)
3. [+ 100] PRAISE THE LORDE 1600.
[▽ 99 ▽ 99 ▽ 99 ▽ 99.]
(Diam. 37 in.)
4. CUM VOCO VENITE ⁝:···JOHN HILL CHURCHWARDEN THOˢ OSBORN FECIT 1794.
(Diam. 41¼ in.)
5. All men that heare my mornfull sound repent before you lye in ground 1627.
(Diam. 43 in.)

For Stamps see page 91.
In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "one sacring bell," which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold and defaced.*

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 101.

According to Bishop Trollope's *Sleaford* (p. 403) the 4th bell was previously inscribed:—

> Anthony Newlove Rector. William Barnes Vicar.
> Omnia fiant ad gloriam eccl. [?] 1608.

The Parish Registers keep on record the following:—

> 1610. 24 June being midsummer day the greate bell fell down as the people were ringing, & brake through the high bell chamber & strucke thorow the stone floor into the ground 3 quarters of a yard: which was throwe one of her yudyrons breaking and had no hurt at all to her.*

The bells were rehung in 1878 by Mr. Rogers of Boston.

HEMINGBY.

S. Margaret. 3 Bells.

1, 2, 3. Lester & Pack of London Fecit 1764.
(Diams. 29, 31, 33 in.)

In 1553 there were here "iij gret bells."†

There is a tradition that a larger church than the present formerly stood here, in which were six bells.

HEMSWELL.

All Saints. 2 Bells.

1. [□ 107] [▽ 127] S [+ 140] S [+ 140] S [+ 140.]
(Diam. 33 in.)

2. [+ 162] Sancti Venite Omnes 1675 W S
(Diam. 34½ in.)

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* Bishop Trollope's *Sleaford*, p. 399.

† *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

For Stamps see *Plate XV.*, pages 114 and 118, and *Plate XXIV.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reporting as to the "monuments of superstition" belonging to this church in Queen Mary's time, said:—Itm̃ . . . one sanctus bell one agnus bell gone owtt off the fore sayd churche no man knoweth how ano dome a thousand five hundrethe three schore & foure." . . . . . .

"Itm̃ ij hande belles solld to Robertt aestroppe one of the sayd Churche wardons to make a mortar off & they be deffaced the same yere by the condecent off the holle pis."*

HEYDOUR.

S. Michael. 5 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. I summon all by lending sounde : to heare the word sinn to confounde [□ 113.]
   SIR EDMVNDE BVSSY [▽ *see below*] KNIGHT 1612.
   (Diam. 31 in.)
2, 3. IHESVS BE OVRE SPEDE 1587 [□ 113 □ 115.]
   (Diams. 36, 39 in.)
4. I sweetly toling men do call to taste on meats that feeds the soule 1609 [□ 113 ▽ *see below.*]
   (Diam. 42 in.)
5. MILES BVSSY SONNE OF THE SAID EDMVND BVSSY [□ 113] EDMVND BVSSY 1609 [▽ *see below.*]
   (Diam. 45 in.)

Priest's Bell :—

Blank.

(Diam. 14 in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 103.

For Stamps see *Plates XVI.* and *XVII.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "a sacringe bell," belonging to this church in Queen Mary's time had been defaced and sold.*

John Bussey of Heydour, who was born about 1533, and who died in 1593, was the representative of a junior branch of the house of Bussey of Hougham, a family of great distinction, whose pedigree is proved by record evidence almost to the era of the Norman Conquest.† Leland relates that "one Bussey coming of a younger brother of the house of Busseys of Hougham, dwelleth in an old place at Haider that he and his parents hath of a fee farm of the Church of Lincoln."‡ This "old place" is supposed to have stood near the church, in a field on the west of the village, where—some years ago—foundations and traces of buildings were traceable.§ Sir Edmund Bussey, Knight, whose name is on the 1st bell, dated 1612, was the son of the John Bussey just mentioned; he was born at Heydour 15th March, 1562. His arms [argent] 3 bars [sable] are given on the bell. He married Frances, daughter of . . . . and died on the 10th June, 1616.

Miles Bussey—the son of Sir Edmund Bussey—whose name is on the 5th bell, was born at Heydour in August 1590 (or 1592).

In 1610 he, as son and heir of Sir Edmund Bussy, joined with his father and Frances his mother, in conveying certain lands in Culverthorpe. His arms (impaling, I presume, those of his wife, if he were married so early) are upon the 4th and 5th bells dated 1609, viz.:—[argent] 3 bars [sable] with a crescent for difference, impaling [. . .] fretty [. . .]. There is no entry of his burial in the Heydour Parish Registers, which, however, record nothing between the years 1650 and 1663.‖

All the bells have lost their canons; the dates 1664 and 1825 are upon the bell-frames.

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 96.

† Ib. p. 96 (note).

‡ *Itin.* I. 29.

§ Saunders' *Hist. Linc.* II. p. 290.

‖ Heydour *Par. Reg.*, extracts from which were kindly made for me by the Rev. Canon Deedes. Bishop Trollope's *Sleaford*, pp. 354, 379-80.

There are some excellent rules for the guidance of the ringers, drawn up by, and with the consent of, the Vicar and Churchwardens.

HIBALDSTOW.

S. Hibald. 3 Bells.

1. GLORIA DEO J. TAYLOR & SON FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1848.
2. FEARE GOD 1615 [or 1635] [▽ 170] B. S.
3. BEATUS VIR QUI NON ABIIT [▫ 8] WILL^{M} SHARP C : WARDEN 1764.

(Diam. 35 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXV.* and *I.*

In 1553 there were here "iij grete belles, one Santus bell."*

The Parish Register contains the following entry referring to the present tenor, with its incomplete inscription from the first Psalm :—

> The Great Bell of this Parish was recast at Barrow by James Harrison and Henry his son June the 25th Old Stile, or, according to this Stile, July the 6th 1764.

The tower has recently fallen. Now (1880) the bells are hung in a little lean-to at the west end of the church ; the ropes have been fastened to the bell clappers, and then passed through holes cut in the west wall, so as to be pulled from inside the church—an arrangement likely to crack the bells.

HOGSTHORPE.

S. Mary. 6 Bells.

1. In sweetest sounds let each its note Reveal mine shall be first to lead the Dulcet peal : T : Mears & Son of London Fecit 1808.

(Diam. 27½ in.)

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off.

2. When Female Virtue weds with manly worth we catch the rapture and we spread it forth : T. Mears & Son of London Fecit 1808.

(Diam. 29 in.)

3. Should Battle rage and sanguine foes contend we hail the Victor when he's Britain's friend. T. Mears & Son of London Fecit 1808.

(Diam. 31 in.)

4. Here let us Pause and now with one accord salute the church triumphant in the Lord: T. Mears & Son of London Fecit 1808.

(Diam. 33 in.)

5. May George long Reign who now the sceptre sways and British Valor ever rule the seas. T. Mears & Son of London Fecit 1808.

(Diam. 36 in.)

6. George Hogarth Minister. Richard Reggall John Ullyett Churchwardens all you that hear my mournfull sound repent before you lye in ground T. Mears & Son of London Fecit 1808.

(Diam. 40 in.)

Prior to 1808 there were four bells only: those were then recast and two new ones added: the inscription on the old tenor was evidently preserved on the new one.

The Rev. George Hogarth (of S. John's College Cambridge, B.A., 1777; M.A. 1780) was presented to the Vicarages of Mumby and Hogsthorpe in 1776; he died in the year 1824, aged 84 years.*

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* *Gent. Mag.* Vol. xciv. p. 574.

HOLBEACH.

All Saints. 8 Bells.

1. GOD SAVE OUR CHURCH THE BELLS IN THIS STEEPLE LIKEWISE ALL THE SUBSCRIBIИG GOOD PEOPLE. CAPT EDWARD NORTHON.
   JAMES BENSON CURATE.
   JOHN WATSON, WM STUKELEY, JOHN KEY } ESQRS
   SAML TYRER, ED JARVIS } CH. WARDENS 1770.
   (Diam. 29 in.)
2. Blank.
   (Diam. 31 in.)
3. Thomas Mears & Son of London Fecit 1807.
   (Diam. 33 in.)
4. [+ 1] IOHИ HOBSOИ RICHARD DARBY CHVRCH WARDEИS 1648 [▫ 6. *Royal* ▽ *Arms.* ▫ 6.]
   (Diam. 33 in.; one canon off H. O. on the crown.)
5. OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI ✦ JOSEPH EAYRE FECIT 1770 ✦
   (Diam. 37 in.)
6. EDMD JARVIS CHURCHWARDEN 1770 ✦ ✦ JOSEPH EAYRE FECIT.
   (Diam. 39 in.)
7. RECAST AND MADE NEW BY THE CONTRIBUTION OF JAS BENSON CURATE WM STUKELEY EDWD NORTHORN JON WATSON AND SEVL OTHERS 1770 EDMD JARVIS CHURCH WARDEN ✦ ✦
   (Diam. 41 in.)
8. [+ 1] IOHN HOBSON RICHARD DARBY CH WA 1648 [*Royal* ▽ *Arms.*]
   (Diam. 45½ in.; turned, no canons, Note E flat.)

For Stamps see pages 52 and 53.

In 1453 "Wm Enot of Lyn Epi and Henry Nele of Holbech gave the Saint's bell."* A more recent bell-cot now exists, dated 1629, but it contains no small bell.

In 1547 the following were sold by the churchwardens :—

It' to Wm Callow the younger on lytyll bell	vj*d.*
It' to Antony Heydon on other lytyll bell	vj*d.*
It' for on bell	xviij*li.* ij*s.*†

There are chimes here: their history and capabilities are told on a brass plate attached to their frames, thus :—

Wm Stukeley Esq: Capt Edwd Northon

1st Ladies of London.
2d Riggadoon.
3d Oswald's Air.
4th Lovely Nancy.
5th Lady Chatham's Jigg.
6th Seely's Garott [?].
7th Three Genls Healths.
8th A Minuet by Norris.
9th 113 Psalm.

Thos Everson & Edmd Jarvis
Churchwardens
Edwd Arnold St Neots Fet
1776.

Captain Edward Northon, whose name appears on two of the bells, died on 23rd April, 1797, aged sixty years. This is a fine ring of bells in perfect tune, but not in good order.

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* Stukeley's *Itinerarium* (Ed. 1724), Vol. I. p. 20. † Ib. (Ed. 1724), Vol. I. p. 19.

HOLBEACH.

S. John. 1 Bell.

This is a small bell hanging in a turret. It was cast in 1840.
(Diam. 18 in.)

HOLBEACH.

S. Matthew. 1 Bell.

This church, consecrated in 1869, has a small bell, about ten inches in diameter, hanging in a turret over the chancel arch.

HOLBEACH MARSH.

S. Mark. 1 Bell.

1. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1868.
(Diam. 22 in.)

HOLBEACH HURN.

S. Luke. 1 Bell.

1. J. TAYLOR & CO LOUGHBOROUGH 1870.
(Diam. 22 in.)

HOLBEACH FEN MISSION CHAPEL.

— ? 1 Bell.

1. MEARS & CO LONDON J. R. JERRAM 1875.
(Diam. 9½ in.; weight 18 lbs.)

HOLBEACH CLOUGH MISSION CHAPEL.

Here is one small bell.

HOLLAND FEN.

S. John Baptist. 1 Bell.

This church, consecrated in 1867, has one small modern bell.

HOLLAND NEW.

Here is a licensed schoolroom with a small modern bell in a gable.

HOLTON-LE-BECKERING.

All Saints. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 117] AVE : MARIA
(Diam. 33 in.)
2. GOD SAVE THE KING 1660 [□ 157.]
(Diam. 38 in.)
3. DANIEL HEDDERLY FOVNDER 1738. JOHN BAZTOP VICKOR JOHN JONES C.W
(Diam. 42 in.)

For Stamps see page 108 and *Plate XXIII.*

The mould of the initial cross on the 1st bell is lozenge shaped, not square as the later examples.

The Vicar's name on the 3rd bell was Baxter, as is seen in the Parish Register.

HOLTON-LE-CLAY.

S. Peter. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 111] HVIVS BĒ MARIA [▽ 119.]
(Diam. 25½ in.; cracked.)

2. [+ 116] RVIVS SĀI GABRIELIS
[▽ 119.]
(Diam. 28¼ in.)

3. [+ 124] Sunc irt ep it.
(Diam. 31¼ in.; not used: intended for Sancti petri.)

For Stamps see *Plate XVI.* and pages 107 and 111.

In 1553 there were here "iij great belles one Sanctus bell."* Those three ancient bells fortunately still remain. The 1st and 2nd were from the same foundry: the letters on the 3rd are misplaced, the inscription is meant for *Sancti petri.*

HOLTON-LE-MOOR.

— ? 2 Bells.

1, 2. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON. HOLTON NEAR CAISTOR 1848.
(Diams. 18, 20 in.)

Prior to 1848, when the church was rebuilt, there was only a single bell; it bore the name of the donor which was Bestoe, and a seventeenth century date, but, unfortunately, a rubbing then taken by the Rector cannot now be found. The full name is probably supplied by the following entry in the Caistor Parish Register:—

1654. Nicholaus Bestoe Armig: de Howton in le Moor Parochia de Castre, in Capella de Howton.

That single bell was recast, and a second added as above.

HOLYWELL.

S. Mary. 2 Bells.

1. BE CONSTANT IN PRAYRE TO GOD 1628.
(Diam. 25½ in.)

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

2. Blank.

(Diam. 28 in.)

In 1565-6 the churchwardens reported that "ij handbelles . . . wt̄ one sacringe bell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been broken in pieces, defaced, and sold.*

HONINGTON.

S. Wilfrid. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 106] GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH 1631.

(Diam. 30½ in.)

2. [+ 120 ▽ 119] HVIVS IHV̄ XPĪ

(Diam. 32 in.)

3. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH ▽ T. G. MADE ME 1673 ▽

(Diam. 32½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XV.* and *XVIII.*, and as to that on the 3rd bell see page 141.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "ij handbells," which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold and defaced.†

In 1818 "great abuses having taken place by injuring the bells of the church," the parishioners in vestry assembled very properly appointed six bell-ringers on condition that they attended to ring the bells at the times appointed for church services; and on that condition only were they to be allowed "to partake of the emoluments arising from marriages, &c.‡

HORBLING.

S. Andrew. 5 Bells.

1. TEMPLA PETAS SUPPLEX ET VENERARE DEUM 1719.

(Diam. 29 in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 106. † Ib. p. 107. ‡ *Church Book of the Parish.*

2. REV. J. LODDINGTON VICAR T. KENSINGTON C.W. REV. J. SINGLAR CURATE. J. BRIANT & JOHN CABOURN HERTFORD FECERUNT 1801.
(Diam. 30¼ in.)
3. NON CLAMOR SED AMOR CANTAT IN AURE DEI. JOH. CROSSBY THO. THIMBLEBY.
(Diam. 31¼ in.)
4. CAMPANAM AUDITE VOCO VOS AD SACRA VENITE 1719.
(Diam. 35¼ in.)
5. DEFVNCTOS PLORO VIVOS VOCO FVNERA CLAVDO. EDW^D BROWN ESQ^R HEN. PENN FUSORE 1712.
(Diam. 38¼ in.)

In 1565-6 the churchwardens reported that "two handbelles," which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, had been broken in pieces and sold.*

The Rev. Joseph Lodington (see 2nd bell) who was also Vicar of Oundle, Northants, died in 1806.

Edward Brown, Esq., whose name is on the 5th bell, was a considerable benefactor to the church and the poor here. He died in 1761 aged 85. Thomas Thimbleby (3rd bell) also left a small benefaction to the poor of Horbling. He died in 1727.

HORKSTOW.

S. Maurice. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. [□ 141 □ 142 □ 144 □ 145] m l k 8751.
(Diam. 25 in.)
2. [+ 64] Abe [□ 67] Gracia [□ 67] Plena.
(Diam. 28 in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 108.

3. [+ 64] Abe [□ 67] Gracia [□ 67] Plena [□ 67] Dominus [□ 67] Tecum.

(Diam. 32 in.)

Priest's Bell :—

Blank.

(Diam. 11 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXI.* and *VIII.*, and for the capital letter A on the 3rd bell see fig. 191, *Plate XXVII.*

The 1st bell has Tudor Badges and three letters of the alphabet with the date 1578 reversed.

The 2nd and 3rd have elegantly executed inscriptions; the capital letter A is ensigned with a crown.

The same cross and letters are found on the 1st bell at Bonby.

The Priest's bell is not used. On the bell-frame are the letters MT RT 1614.

HORNCASTLE.

S. Mary. 6 Bells and 2 Small Bells.

1. LECTVM : FVGE : DISCVTE : SOMNVM : G. S : J. W : H. PENN : FVSOR : 1717.

(Diam. 33½ in.)

2. IN TEMPLO VENERARE DEVM HEN PENN NOS FVDIT : CORNVCASTRI.

(Diam. 34 in.)

3. SVPPLICEM DEVS AVDIT DANIEL HEDDERLY CAST ME 1727.

(Diam. 36½ in.; many impressions of coins.)

4. THO. OSBORN FECIT DOWNHAM NORFOLK 1801. THO. BRYAN AND D. BROWN CHURCHWARDENS.

(Diam. 37½ in.)

5. DVM : SPIRAS : SPERA : H. PENN : FVSOR : 1717 THO : ET : SAM : HAMERTON : ÆDITIVI.

(Diam. 41 in.)

6. EXEAT : E : BVSTO : AVSPICE : CHRISTO. THO : LODINGTON LL.D. VIC : H. P : 1717.

(Diam. 46½ in.)

Fire Bell. Blank.

(Diam. 16½ in.)

Small Bell. Inaccessible.

The 4th bell was previously inscribed:—

Fac : et : spe : Henri : Penn : Fvsor : Peterbvrgensis.

The small bell, which is now rung as an alarm bell day or night in case of fire or other great calamity, was, until recently, used as the Priest's bell: it has no wheel.

The second small bell, which is attached to the exterior of the small timber spire which crowns the tower, has no clapper. Prior to the restoration of the church, in 1859-61, the clock struck the hours on this bell, which has a very peculiar shrill sound, and could be heard much further off than the tenor bell upon which the clock now strikes. The quarters are struck upon the 1st and 5th bells.

The Rev. Thomas Lodington, LL.D. (see 6th bell), who was Vicar of Horncastle for forty-five years, was buried here the 25th of March, 1724.

HORNCASTLE.

HOLY TRINITY. 1 BELL.

This chapel-of-ease, opened in 1848, has one bell then provided, which hangs in a high open gable.

HORSINGTON.

ALL SAINTS. 1 BELL.

In 1553 there were here "Itm̃ ij gret bells."* There is now only a single one which was brought from the ancient church to the present

* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

new building erected about twenty years ago. The bell is evidently an ancient one (about 15 inches in diameter) with an inscription upon it, but as it hangs about thirty feet above the belfry floor, without any ladder or stairs by which to get to it, I am reluctantly obliged to say inaccessible.

315

HOUGH-ON-THE-HILL.

ALL SAINTS. 5 BELLS.

1. [+ 2] ED PAYNE ESQVIRE. W. WALKER. J. MORRIS 1683.
2. [+ 2] TOBIE NORRIS CAST ALL WEE 1683.
3. [+ 2] W. READE. S. FOLKERD. 1683.
4. [+ 2] R. POOLE MIN. R. BEE GENT 1683.
5. [+ 2] WHEN YOV HEARE THIS MOVRNFVLL SOVND PREPARE YOVRSELVES FOR UNDERGROVND 1683.

For Stamp see page 52.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "ij handbells" which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time had been "sold since the last visit, being defaced," and that "a sacringe bell" had been "sold to Austen Earle to put about a calues neck."*

Prior to 1683 there were three bells, which were inscribed:—

1. Sc̄a Helena ora pro nobis.
2. Protege prece pia quos Cornuoco sc̄a Maria.
3. Celorum x̄pe placeat tibi Rex sonus iste.†

HOUGHAM.

ALL SAINTS. 4 BELLS.

1. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1694.
(Diam. 29½ in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 105. † *Harl. MSS.* 6829, p. 319.

2. I sweetly toling men do call to taste on meats that feeds the soole 1607.

[□ 113.]

(Diam. 32 in.)

3. [+ 117] ALL GLORY BEE TO GOD MOST HIGH 1618.

[□ 113.]

(Diam. 34½ in.)

4. [+ 106] GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH OVR KIИG AИD REALME AИD SEИD VS PEACE IИ CHRIST AMEИ 1618.

[□ 113]

(Diam. 38 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XVI.* page 108, and *Plate XV.*

317 HOWELL.

S. Oswald. 1 Bell.

1. EDWARD BROOKES 1827.

(Diam. 17½ in.)

There were formerly 2 bells in the double bell turret: one was sold towards repairing the church.* The present bell, before it was recast in 1827, is said to have been inscribed:—

Tobie Norris cast me 1666.

318 HOWSHAM-CUM-CADNEY.

Here is a modern chapel-of-ease with one small bell.

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* *Sketches of Sleaford* (1825).

HUMBERSTONE.

S. PETER. 1 BELL.

1. JOHN BEE CHURCHWARDEN 1819. JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON FOUNDER.
(Diam. 43 in.)

In 1553 there were here "ij gret belles."*

The clock strikes on the present good sized bell. There is a tradition at Irby-on-Humber that one of the present bells there came from this parish church. That is probably true seeing there were two bells here in the sixteenth century, and one of them is now wanting.

HUMBY GREAT.

This chapel built originally in 1682, and recently restored, has one small bell, 14 inches in diameter, without inscription.

HUNDLEBY.

S. MARY. 3 BELLS AND A PRIEST'S BELL.

1. [+ 66] Sce Petre Ora Pro Nobis [▽ 68.]
(Diam. 30 in.)
2. [+ 2] GOD SAVE THE KING TOBIE NORRIS CAST ME 1675.
(Diam. 33 in.)
3. JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER BARTON, 1819.
(Diam. 36½ in.)

Priest's Bell :—

Blank.
(Diam. 13½ in.)

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

For Stamps see *Plate VIII.* and page 52.

In 1553 there were here "iij belles in the steple wth the Sanctus bell."*

In 1818, the tenor bell being cracked, it was agreed at a vestry held on the 12th of November in that year "that the Bell should be taken down and recast and other things done in the church, according to Archdeacon Goddard's monition; . . . . and that the churchwarden write to Mr. Harrison, or some other founder, concerning the Bell emediately."

There was then living in Hundleby a tinker named James Rose, who was generally known by the name of "Ingenuity Rose:" he undertook to repair the bell for ten pounds, and so save the trouble of sending it out of the parish: the Vestry Book records the agreement thus:—

> Hundleby Feb. 18. 1819.
>
> At a Vestry held in the Parish Church this Day, it is agreed upon by the undersigned that James Rose doth agree to undertake to repair the Bell that is crack'd & to make her perfect, and stand ringing as perfect as when she was new, and the said James Rose doth agree to take Tenn Pounds for the said repairing of the said Bell—and if he does not make her perfect and to stand ringing to the said parishes satisfaction the said Ja^s^ Rose doth agree to have nothing for his doing her.

James Rose made a fire in the churchyard, and after sawing a piece out of the bell, he tried to run some new metal into the crack: it is needless to say that his "Ingenuity" failed him: he got no payment for his labour, and the bell had to be sent to the founder at Barton as its present inscription testifies.†

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{54}$, P. R. Off.

† For the extracts from Vestry Book I am indebted to the Rev. C. G. Ridley, Vicar of the parish.

HUTTOFT.

S. Margaret. 3 Bells.

1, 2. THOMAS MEARS & SON OF LONDON FECIT 1809.
3. REV. GEORGE HOGARTH MINISTER KING QUEENBOROUGH C.W. THOMAS MEARS & SON OF LONDON FECIT 1809.

HYKEHAM NORTH.

All Saints. 1 Bell.

This church was built in 1858, and its single bell is no older.

HYKEHAM SOUTH.

S. Michael. 2 Bells.

1. DAN HEDLY 1758.
(Diam. 26 in.)
2. [+ 116] IESVS BE OVR SPED H D [□ □ 149 and 150]
(Diam. 30 in.)

For Stamps see pages 107 and 123.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "ij handbelles," belonging to this church in Queen Mary's time had been sold and defaced.*

IMMINGHAM.

S. Andrew. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 137] A VE MA RI A
(Diam. 34 in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 141.

2. [▽ 124 □ 126] sc̄a maria.

(Diam. 38 in.)

3. [+ 37] HOC [□ 39] NOMEN [□ 39] [□ 36] IHESVS [□ 39] EST [□ 39] AMOR [□ 39] MEVS

(Diam. 42 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XX.*, pages 111 and 113, and *Plate V.;* and for a specimen of the letters on the 3rd bell see fig. 175, *Plate XXVI.*

These are three very interesting bells. The 3rd bell is probably coeval with the tower, and is a fine tall and thick one, a characteristic example of the mediæval form. William of Wykeham left by Will a pair of beads with the inscription ihs est amor meus, and the same inscription is upon the exterior wall of the north aisle of S. Mary's Church, Stratford, Suffolk, supposed to have been built in the fifteenth century by the Mors family.

INGHAM.

All Saints. 1 Bell.

Inaccessible.

INGOLDMELLS.

SS. Peter and Paul. 4 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 31 in.)

2. IES VS BE OVR SPEED 1705 [O 7.]

(Diam. 31½ in.)

3. [O 7] 1705. JOHN BARNS CHURCHWARDEN BEING THEN ALIVE CAUSED VS TO BE CAST IN 1705.

(Diam. 36¼ in.)

4. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1761.

(Diam. 42½ in.; cracked.)

Priest's Bell :—

[+ 79 ▫ 78ᵃ] SVM [▫] ROSA [▫] [▫ 76] PVL-
SATA [▫] MVNDI [▫] [▫ 76] CATA-
RINA [▫] [▫ 76] VOCATA

(Diam. 19 in.)

For Stamps see pages 59, 79, and 80—the other Stamps (unnumbered) are described on page 81.

The Priest's bell is now unhung and lies on the floor of the room below the bell-chamber. The canons are broken off, and holes have been bored through the crown, by means of which the bell was hung. It has a clapper, and apparently, is not cracked : there is therefore no reason why this interesting ancient Sanctus bell should not be rehung. It is one of the curious set of bells described on page 81, as remaining at Beesby, and Gunby S. Peter, and has, for intervening stops the same scraps of ornate letters as appear upon them.

I have obtained a rubbing of the inscription on this bell with considerable difficulty, and after much delay, hence the omission of any mention of it when describing similar bells on page 81.

3 12 INGOLDSBY.

S. Bartholomew. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 40] VOCOR ANDREA
(Diam. 30 in.)
2. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1799.
(Diam. 33 in.)
3. EDWARD WORSDALL JUNIOR CHURCHWARDEN THOMAS HEDDERLY FOUNDER 1765.
(Diam. 36 in.)

For Stamp see *Plate VI.*

IRBY-IN-THE-MARSH.

All Saints. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. [+ 1] 1691.

(Diam. 22½ in.)

2. IHESVS BE OVR SPEDE 1618.

(Diam. 27½ in.)

3. 1828.

(Diam. 29 in.)

Priest's Bell:—

K
W [+ 116] O 1629.
(Diam. 11¼ in.)

For Stamps see pages 52 and 107.

The 3rd bell was previously inscribed:—

God save his chvrch 1610.

IRBY-UPON-HUMBER.

S. Andrew. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. [+ 162] Santitas Domino W S 1664.

(Diam. 34½ in.)

2. FILI DIAIAI : MISERERE NOBIS ANNO DOMINI 1579 R G.

(Diam. 35 in.; 12 coins on sound-bow.)

3. THOMAS BORMAN CHURCHWARDEN 1768.

(Diam. 40½ in.; all have had their canons cut off.)

Priest's Bell:—

J. WARNER & SONS LONDON 1854.
(Diam. 13½ in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XXIV.*

In 1553 "Rebye" in Bradley Haverstoe Wapentake, which perhaps means this parish, there were "iij gret belles j sanctus bell."*

The commencement of the inscription on the 2nd bell is intended for FILI DEI VIVI.

On the belfry ladder are the initials and date $\frac{\text{E G}}{1737.}$ $\frac{\text{I P}}{}$

There is a tradition that the tenor bell was brought from the church at Humberstone, which is probably true (see p. 469).

IRNHAM.

S. Andrew. 4 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. [+ 1] GOD SAVE THE KING 1670.
(Diam. 30¾ in.)

2. [+ 116] ALL men that heare my mornfull sobnd repent before you lye in ground 1620 [□ 154.]
(Diam. 33 in.)

3. [+ 116] I sweetly toling men do call to taste on meats that feeds the soble 1620 [□ 154.]
(Diam. 35½ in.)

4. [+ 116] MY roaringe sounde doth warning gibe that men cannot heare always lybe 1620 [□ 154.]
(Diam. 38½ in.)

Priest's Bell:—

Blank.
(Diam. 13¾ in.)

For Stamps see pages 52 and 107, and *Plate XXII.*

KEAL EAST.

S. Helen. 5 Bells.

1. [+ 1] GOD SAVE THE KING 1670 B. H. STINGES.
(Diam. 29½ in.)

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

2. IESVS BE OVR SPEED 1633.
(Diam. 31½ in.)

3. THOMAS SCOTT CHURCHWARDEN 1773.
(Diam. 32½ in.)

4. JOSEPH WILSON JOHN GILDON C : W 1731 DANIEL HEDDERLY FOVNDER.
(Diam. 35½ in.; coins on rim.)

5. JOHN SCOTT HUTCHINGS CHURCHWARDEN THO^S OSBORN DOWNHAM FECIT 1790 ⁝:···
(Diam. 43 in.)

For Stamp see page 52.

In 1553 "Est Kell" possessed "iiij^or great bells j sanctus bell."*

The 2nd bell was from the Stamford foundry, and the 3rd from that at Barrow.

The bells here have twice during this century had a narrow escape from destruction. Between twenty and thirty years ago the tower fell in; it had given premonitory warnings of giving way, and steps were being taken to examine it and make it safe, but before anything could be done it crumbled together, and one morning a heap of rubbish only marked the spot where the tower had stood up to the previous evening. On this occasion the bells fell together; they kept their places in their frame, and all sank vertically and uniformly, and no harm was done to them. Later, in the autumn of 1877, the new tower, in which the old bells had been replaced, was struck by lightning. The west wall of the tower in its upper part, was torn away, and the bell-chamber was laid open to the outer air while the roof was hanging down towards—but not so far as—the frame, for want of the support of the western wall. A few trifling items of damage were done to the woodwork by the stones that the lightning violently displaced, but, substantially, the bells received no harm at all.

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{54}$, P. R. Off.

KEAL WEST.

S. Helen. 5 Bells.

1. Henry Harrison of Barrow. Founder. 1772.
(Diam. 31½ in.)
2. Cast at Barrow 1772.
(Diam. 33½ in.)
3. RICH^D CLARK CHURCHWARDEN T. OSBORN DOWNHAM NORFOLK FECIT 1790 ⁝ : : : ·
(Diam. 36¼ in.)
4. Richard Parkinder Church-warden 1772.
(Diam. 37½ in.)
5. To speak a parting Soul is giv'n to me
Be trimm'd thy Lamp as if I toll'd for Thee.
(Diam. 41½ in.)

In 1553 "West Keyll" possessed "ij belles in the Steple and a Sant' bell."*

On Sunday, the 18th of September, 1881, the tower of this church fell with a tremendous crash: at the time of going to press with this sheet the bells lie amongst the ruins, and nothing can at present be learned as to their state beyond the fact that the canons of one bell are broken.

KEDDINGTON.

S. Margaret. 1 Bell.

1. [+ 40] AVE M [+ 40] AREAG [+ 40] RACEAPLENA
(Diam. 22½ in.)

For Stamp see *Plate VI.*

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{54}$, P. R. Off.

KEELBY.

S. Bartholomew. 3 Bells.

1. GOD SAVE KING JAME 1688.
(Diam. 28½ in.)
2. 1628.
(Diam. 29½ in.)
3. PRAYSE YE THE LORDE 1604 W.
(Diam. 33 in.)

All have had the canons cut off.

KELBY.

S. Andrew. 1 Bell.

1. THOˢ HEDDERLY OF NOTTINGHAM FECIT 1782.

A Cornucopia is represented on this, as on some other of this founder's bells.

In 1566 the churchwardens of "Kelbie in the Pīshe of Haydor" reported that "a sacring bell" which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time had been sold that year to Giles Harrie and defaced, and that "ij hand bells" were defaced and sold to Godfrey Jenkinson "yesterdaie beinge the vij of this instant Aprill."*

KELSEY NORTH.

S. Nicolas. [?] 3 Bells.

1. [+ 162] God with ꝟs RF RW WS 1662.
(Diam. 31 in.)
2. IESVS BE OVR SPEDE 162£.
(Diam. 33½ in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* pp. 109, 110.

3. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 162£.
(Diam. 37½ in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XXIV.* The 2nd and 3rd bells were from the Nottingham Foundry.

The Sanctus bell formerly hanging here, which is without inscription or mark of any kind, has been removed to the School.

338 KELSEY SOUTH.

S. Mary. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 116] IESVS BE OVR SPEED 1620.
(Diam. 33½ in.)
2. ROBERT COX CHURCHWARDEN 1768.
(Diam. 35½ in.)
3. [V 137] IN NOMIE IHV MARIA
O O O O
(Diam. 37¼ in.; 4 coins on sound-bow.)

For Stamps see page 107 and *Plate XX.*

In 1553 "Kelsey Mary" possessed "iij gret belles & one sanctus bell."*

The following rhyme is current in this neighbourhood: nothing is known as to its supposed origin:—

Owersby parish
Wicked people
Sold their bells to Kelsey
To build a steeple.

339 KELSEY SOUTH.

S. Nicolas.

This church, which formerly stood within the still used burial ground, possessed, in the year 1553, "iij gret belles & one santus bell."†

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off. † Ib. 507, P. R. Off.

KELSTERN.

S. Faith. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 117] FRANCISCVS SOVTH EQVES AVRATVS IN DEI HONOREM ME FIERI CVRAVIT 1607.

[□ 113] [*Arms of* ▽ *Donor.*]

(Diam. 26½ in.)

2. [+ 117] WHEN WE THRE BELLS TOGETHER BE TOLLD MAKE HAST TO THE CHVRCH BOTH YOVNG AND OLDE 1607.

[□ 113] [*Arms of* ▽ *Donor.*]

(Diam. 29 in.)

3. VT TVBA SIC SONITV DOMINI CONDVCO COHORTES 1607.

[□ 113] [*Arms of* ▽ *Donor.*]

(Diam. 34 in.)

For Stamps see page 108 and *Plates XVI.*

Sir Francis South of Kelstern (the donor of these bells) was knighted (previously to the coronation of King James I.) at Whitehall, 23rd July, 1603. He was High Sheriff of the county on the occasion of the visit of that monarch to Lincoln, on 27th March, 1617, and assisted, as such, in conducting the king to his lodging at S. Catharine's House.* He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Meeres, of Auburn, Knight. His arms, as given on the bells, were [argent] two bars [gules]. Crest: A lion rampant [gules] ducally gorged [or] holding in the dexter paw a

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* *Civitas Lincolnia*, p. 74.

mullet pierced [argent]. He was buried at Kelstern on the 29th of July, 1632.

341 KETSBY [CUM SOUTH ORMSBY].

The ancient church of S. Margaret formerly stood here; no vestige now remains.

In 1552, when the Inventory of Church Goods at "Kettisby in the parties of Lyndesey" was made, the bells and their values were thus entered:—

Inp'm iij bells in the steple.....xij*li.*
Itm one littill bell ..... vj*s.* viij*d.*
Itm two handbells..... viij*d.**

34 KETTLETHORPE.

SS. PETER AND PAUL. 3 BELLS.

1. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH. DARWENT STOW JOHN SHAW WARDENS 1710.
(Diam. 29 in.)
2. IESVS BE OVR SPEEDE CHARLES HALL RECTOR 1710 ROBERT COALE. —33
(Diam. 31 in.; cracked.)
3. [+ 28] Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum [□ 33 ▽ 32.]
(Diam. 34 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate III.*

The 1st and 2nd bells, which are much ornamented, were from the Nottingham foundry.

The Rev. Charles Hall (see 2nd bell) died in 1728.

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 78, P. R. Off.

KILLINGHOLME.

S. Denys. 4 Bells.

1. VENITE EXVLTEMVS DOMINO 1725 [□ 168]
(Diam. 30½ in.)

2. GLORIA IN ALTISSIMIS DEO 1725 [□ 168]
(Diam. 32 in.)

3. [□ 107] [▽ 127] personet hec celis dulcissima vox gabrielis.
(Diam. 34⅞ in.)

4. [+ 22] CAMPANA [□ 23] SANCTE [□ 23] TRINITATIS [□ 23] ET [□ 23] OMNIUM [□ 23] SANCTORUM
(Diam. 39 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XV.* and pages 114 and 71.

The inscription on the 4th is indistinct; the cross, stop and letters, are like those used by John Potter at West Halton.

KINGERBY.

S. Peter. 1 Bell and a Priest's Bell.

1. [+ 165] GOD WITH VS W S 1678 [□ 167]
(Diam. 30½ in.)

Priest's Bell:—

W S 1678.
(Diam. 12 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXIV.*

In 1553 there were here "ij gret belles j santus bell."*

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

345 KIRKBY-CUM-OSGODBY.

S. Andrew. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. [+ 116] GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1598 [□ 113.]
[*Royal* ▽ *Arms.*]
(Diam. 31½ in.)

2. [+ 116] IHESVS BE OVR SPEDE 1598 [□ 113]
[*Royal* ▽ *Arms.*]
(Diam. 34½ in.)

3. [+ 116] In Honore Sc̄e Trinitatis [▽ 119.]
(Diam. 38½ in.)

Priest's Bell :—
Blank.
(Diam. 14½ in.)

For Stamps see page 107, and *Plates XVI.* and *XVIII.*

In 1553 "Kyrkebye" in Walshcroft Wapentake possessed "iij grete bells one sanctus bell."*

The 3rd bell has the same cross as the other two but on an earlier formed stamp.

346 KIRKBY EAST.

S. Nicolas. 2 Bells.

1. IESVS BE OVR SPEED 1704 [O 7.]
(Diam. 30 in.)
[□ 107]

2. Hec Campana Sacra [▽ 131] Beata Trinitate Fiat.
[▽ 127]
(Diam. 37 in.)

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

For Stamps see page 59, *Plates XV.* and *XIX.* and page 114.

In 1553 there were here "iij great belles, one sanctus bell."*

The Churchwardens' Account Book has the following entry under the year 1822:—

> Bells taking down and hanging over again with new frames the old being very dangerous. Mr. Thimbleby agreed with Parishioners to do it for £10 last 25 March.

At that time the bells were hung in the lower chamber of the tower instead of the upper as before.

The 3rd bell (the largest) formerly here is remembered as being cracked and standing on the church floor about the year 1812: after some years—there is no mention of it in a Terrier made in 1823—it was broken up and the metal sold: there being no record of what became of the proceeds, and the traditions about it being of a very hazy description it may be well not to chronicle them here.

KIRKBY GREEN.

HOLY CROSS. 1 BELL.

1. 169D.
(Diam. 18 in.)

Church built in 1849.

KIRKBY LAYTHORPE.

S. PETER. 3 BELLS.

1. HENRY PENN MADE MEE 170$\frac{7}{8}$.
(Diam. 27$\frac{1}{4}$ in.)
2. ALEXANDER RIGBY MADE ME 1707.
(Diam: 29 in.)

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{54}$, P. R. Off.

3. [+ 3] ALEXANDER RIGBY MADE ME 1707 JOHN : WILLOWBY.
(Diam. 32½ in.)

For Stamp see page 52.

349 KIRKBY UNDERWOOD.

S. Mary and All Saints. 3 Bells.

1, 3. [+ 1.] H TORING D W I WIER
(Diams. 24, 30 in.)

2. William Brittain Church Warden 1774.
(Diam. 26 in.)

For Stamp see page 52.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "as for handbelles sacring bell we had none in quene maries daies."*

350 KIRKBY-ON-BAIN.

S. Mary. 1 Bell.

1. F RENOLDS C WARDEN J BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1803.
(Diam. 24 in.)

In 1553 "Kyrkbye super Bayn" possessed "iij gret bells & a santus bell."†

351 KIRKSTEAD.

S. Leonard (?). 1 Bell.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 12 in.)

---

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 111.

† *Land Revenue Records, Church Goods,* Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

This chapel is a donative. In 1720 it was in the hands of Mr Daniel Disney who, being a Presbyterian, appointed a minister of his own to perform service, paid him a stipend, and "settled certain lands upon five trustees, the profits of which were to be applied to the maintenance of a Presbyterian minister at this place. This gift he afterwards confirmed by his Will in 1732, and in addition bequeathed to the trustees the use of the chapel and chapel ground for the same purpose. Several appointments of ministers were made in accordance with Mr. Disney's Will, but in 1794 the then owner of the manor appointed a clergyman of the Church of England paying him the stipend. The Presbyterian Trustees recovered possession of the estate, but not of the chapel, by an action of ejectment tried at Lincoln Assizes in 1812, part of the evidence (it is said) to show that it had been the Parish Church, and therefore belonged to the Church of England, was that an old man remembered when a bell used to be rung as it hung in an oak tree hard by the church. What became of that bell is not known. Probably the church was for some time without a bell, for when it was re-roofed, in 1849, a bell turret was, for the first time, erected, and the present bell, which looks a modern one, is also no doubt of that date.

KIRMINGTON.

S. Helen. 1 Bell.

1. WILLIAM HALL CHURCHWARDEN 1803.

The Frame is of a curious and clumsy construction, with two arches one above the other.

KIRMOND-LE-MIRE.

S. Martin. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 12 in.)

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* Saunders' *Hist. Linc.* Vol. II. p. 79.

Three bells were removed in 1697 from the ancient church of this Parish to Wragby, by Sir Edmund Turnor.

514 KIRTON-IN-HOLLAND.

S. Mary or SS. Peter and Paul. 8 Bells.

1. In Sweetest sounds let each its Note Reveal Mine shall be first to lead the dulcet Peal. T. Mears & Son of London Fecit 1807.

   (Diam. 29½ in.)

2. When Female Virtue Weds With Manly Worth We catch the Rapture and we spread it Forth. T. Mears & Son of London Fecit 1807.

   (Diam. 30 in.)

3. Should Battles rage and sanguine foes contend We hail the Victor When he's Brittains friend. T. Mears & Son of London fecit 1807.

   (Diam. 32 in.)

4. Here let us pause & now with one accord salute the Church Triumphant in the Lord. T. Mears & Son of London fecit 1807.

   (Diam. 34 in.)

5. May George long reign who now the sceptre sways and British Valour ever rule the Seas. T. Mears & Son of London fecit 1807.

   (Diam. 37 in.)

6. May Peace return to bless Brittannias shore and faction fall to raise her head no More. T. Mears & Son of London fecit 1807.

   (Diam. 38 in.)

7. Mankind alas like us are often found A tinkling Cymball but an empty sound. T. Mears & Son of London Fecit 1807.

   (Diam. 40½ in.)

8. MAY ALL WHOM I SHALL SUMMON TO THE GRAVE THE BLESSING OF A WELL SPENT LIFE RECEIVE. THE REVD FRANCIS SWAN VICAR JOSEPH DODDS WILLIAM PALETHORP CHURCH WARDENS JOHN CABOURN HANGER THOMAS MEARS & SON OF LONDON FECIT 1807.

(Diam. 45½ in.)

Prior to 1807 there was "a noble ring of five large bells."* The Rev. F. Swan (see 8th bell) who was of Magdalen College, Oxford; M.A., 1810; was presented to the Vicarage of this parish by the Mercers' Company in 1785, and to the Rectory of Winteringham, by the Earl of Scarborough, in 1808; he was also a Prebendary of Lincoln (collated in 1825); he died on the 23rd of February, 1845, in the 92nd year of his age.

Here are Peal Boards dated 1851 and 1856.

KIRTON-IN-LINDSEY.

S. ANDREW. 6 BELLS.

1—5. 1798.

(Diams. 31, 32½, 35, 36½, 39 in.)

6. REV. JOHN GRAY MINISTER : WILLIAM BECK & THOMAS DRY Church Wardens 1798. THIS PEAL OF BELLS CAST BY JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON.

(Diam. 43 in.)

The Churchwardens' Accounts here give some curious information about the bells:—

Mcccccxxxv

Itm for hawefe a hyde of wytlether..... vj*d*.

---

* Stukeley's *Itinerarium*, p. 30.

Itm̃ payd to roger codder for iij bautres making*... vj*d.*
Itm̃ payd to Jalyfyld for takyg vp of gret bell ..... xij*d.*
It' payd ffor whet leder^s^ to the bell baudre ..... j*d.*

[1546]

ffor a belle as we gott off the vessetery ..... iiij*d.*

[1549 *circa*]

It' payd ffor grese to the byells ..... j*d.*
It' payd for hempe ..... ij*s.*
It' payd for ye maken ..... vij*d.*
It' payd to john halefield for bell claper..... ix*s.*
Itm̃ paide for hemppe to the bell stryngs ..... xvj*d.*
ye makyng of ye same ..... iiij*d.*
Itm̃ paid for mendyng of the bell yoke and ye wyells xvj*d.*
Itm̃ paid for makyng of a belle batrey and mending viij*d.*

In 1553 when an Indented Inventory of the Church Goods belonging to this church was drawn up there were "iij greyt belles one sanctus bell."†

The extracts from the Churchwardens' Accounts are continued:—

1570. Itm̃ thoms flesher a great bell clapp^r^ ....
1573. Jan. ye 6. paid to berye for bells mendinge ..... vij*s.* vj*d.*
Jan ye 6. 1573 Elizabethe 16° agred thoms berye to tack charge off the bells yerlye at viij*s* & the town shepe to Rapaie all as his dutyes he must ffind strings, greas & all other charges wood Iron . . . and the workmanshipe excepted.
Itm̃ for rope to the lytell bell ....
Itm̃ for iij bell Rope to the chewrche ..... iij*s.* vj*d.*
1575. for three bel Ropes ..... iij*s.* vij*d.*

* The bauderick was the leather gear with its appurtenances attached to the upper part of the clapper, by which it was suspended; the half hide of whitleather in the previous entry was for use in making the baudericks.

† *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{5}\frac{3}{3}$ P. R. Off.

	To Thomas fare for mendyng the byls	iij*s*.
	To Thomas Whatson for makeyng tharne* geare to the beyles	xx*d*.
	To Thomas berye for mendynge the beyles	xxij*d*.
	To wyllam dowsson for nales & makeyng thrne geare the beyles	x*s*.
	for a stone of thyrne to the bel claper	xviij*d*.
	for whetlether to the beyl streynges & bawetrese meyndeyng	iiij*d*.
1577.	Itm̃ paid to denis for iij bell stringes and ij cloke stringes	v*s*. vj*d*.
1580.	Itm̃ for a pennieworth of sope for the belles.....	j*d*.
	Itm̃ aganste San hew day for warke to the belles...	ij*s*.
1581.	Itm̃ for mendinge the belles aganste San hew day	viij*d*.
1596.	It' layd out for the bels mendinge	iij*s*. iiij*d*.
	laid out for a bell rope	xx*d*.
	laid out for a bell bawtrye.....	xx*d*.
	layd out for Whytlether to mende the bell bawtryes wyth	iiij*d*.
	layd out for a punde of grease for ye bells.....	iiij*d*.
1597.	Itm̃ vpon sante hue daye	viij*d*.

[Many items for repairs to the bells]

1600.	Itm̃ layde forthe for the beell at lyncolne whn̄ it was cayst	iiij*s*. iiij*d*.
1610.	It' to Mr Sawer for gettinge the little bell casten at lincolne	xxxij*s*. ij*d*.
	Imprimis for a bautrie	xxj*d*.
	It' charges for ringing of Sainte James day	xiiij*d*.
1613.	It' for ringinge at vsuall times for oure Kinge and for mending of ye bels	vj*s*.
1615.	It' layd out to Mr Lee the Belfounder	xl*s*.

* Iron.

In 1616 an entry of the weights of the three bells was made as follows:—

The lytell bell weithe vj hundred and a half and ix*li.* The second bell weithe vij hundred and one *li.* The great bell weithe xiij hundred vj stone v*li* and half.

1622.	It' for ringinge of Saint James day	ix*d.*
1623.	It' for two poundes of goose grease for the clocke and the bels	xvj*d.*
	It' for mendinge the bell bautries	ij*s.*
	It' for ringinge charges for ringinge the xxiiij day of March	vj*d.*
	[The King's Accession.]	
	It' to the smyth for mendinge of the bels of St James even	xx*d.*
	It' charges for ringeinge of St James Day.....	xviij*d.*
	It' for ringinge the fifte of August	viij*d.*
	It' for ringinge the fift day of November	xij*d.*
1625.	It' to Ringers when the Knyghts of the shire were chosen	xij*d.*
1629.	Item to Augustine Bowler for castinge the little bell and for charges belonginge to her	xxxix*s.* 7*d.*
1630.	It' ou' chargis at Lincoln about the bell.....	i*s.*
	It' to Marmaduk hayer for feching her at glentworthe	iiij*d.*
	It' for hinging her	iij*s.*
	Item bestowed of the ringers in Ayle for Joye of the younge Prince	xij*d.*
	Item to Christopher Newham for hangeinge the greate bell and for nailes	xviij*d.*
1632.	Item to Thomas Blaw when he was hyred to ring the bell	viij*d.*
	Item to Thomas Blaw for ringing the bell	xiij*s.* iiij*d.*
	Item to Thomas Blaw for mending the bautries ...	ij*s.*
	Item to the ringers of new yeare day morninge ...	xij*d.*

	Item to the ringers the fift day of November	ij*s.*
	Item to John Horsfall of Scotter the xxx day of March for three bell roapes	xij*s.* vj*d.*
1638.	Imp'imis for rynginge of the Crownation day the xxvijth of March	ij*s.*
1640.	It' given to the Ringers at Christenmasse day at morne.....	xij*d.*
1658.	It' to the Ringers on Saint Andrews day	0 . 1 . 0

The tenor bell requiring recasting Humphrey Wilkinson, bellfounder of Lincoln, was employed to recast it in 1676. A Bond for £100 was given on the 14th November, 1676, by him with George Gilby of Lincoln, yeoman, as his surety to "James Dalbye gen. & John Richardson mercer of Kirton in Lindsey" for the due performance of the contract. The condition of the Bond was thus stated:—

> The Condicōn of this p'sent obligacōn is such that whereas the above bounden Humphrey Wilkinson hath artickled wth the above named James Dalby and John Richardson churchwardens of the pish of Kirton in Lindsey which artickles iointly sealed beareth date the sixth day of this instant september for and concerning the sufficient casting of the third Bell of Kirton aforesaid and other things theare in conteined if therefore the said Humphrey Wilkinson doe truely & sufficiently observe and keepe the artickles aforementioned and every thing there in conteined that then this p'sent obligacōn to be voide or else to be and remaine in full power
>
> Sealed and delivered in the presence of — Humphrey Wilkinson, George Gilbye
>
> William Curtis
> Hervey Emanson.

The Churchwardens' Accounts have references to this contract:—

1676.	Nov 5. Paid to the Ringers for the Pouder plott day	0 . 2 . 6

November the 5th Paid by order of the neighbours
when we Artickled wth the Bell founder ..... 0 . 4 . 2
Novr 14 in charges att Lincoln when I tooke bonde
of the Bellfounder for performance of Artickles ... 0 . 2 . 6
for the Bond draweing ..... 0 . 0 . 6*

The ancient number of three bells was augmented to six in 1798, when the present bells were cast by James Harrison of Barton-on-Humber. They were rung by the Barton ringers for the first time on the 1st day of September in that year.

The Rev. John Gray, whose name is on the tenor bell, was Vicar of Hibaldstow, and "minister" or curate of Kirton. He died 6th July, 1806, aged 55 years, and was buried in Grayingham churchyard, where a flat stone marks the place of his sepulture.

KNAITH.

S. Mary (?) — 1 Bell.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 12¾ in.)

This small bell, which (like many others in the county) is most difficult of access from the outside only by means of a long ladder, is covered with rust, and entirely devoid of inscription or stamp of any kind.

KYME SOUTH.

S. Mary the Virgin. — 1 Bell.

One small modern bell 17 inches in diameter.

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* The extracts were made by Edward Peacock, Esq., F.S.A., for the Rev. J. T. Fowler, F.S.A., to whom I am indebted for them.

KYME NORTH.

S. Luke. 1 Bell.

One small modern bell in a turret.

LACEBY.

S. Margaret. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. [+ 117] MARY : OF : HAWARDBY : OF VS : HAVE : MERCY
[O O O O O O *Six coins on sound bow.*]
(Diam. 34 in.)

2. [+ 41] ISTA [□ 45] CAMPANA [□ 45] FIT [□ 45] IN HONORE [□ 45] SANCTI [□ 45] AUGUSTINI
(Diam. 38½ in.)

3. SOLI DEO GLORIA PAX HOMINIBVS 1712 [□ 168.]
(Diam. 40½ in.)

Priest's Bell :—

[□ 97]
(Diam. 17½ in.)

For Stamps see page 108, and *Plates VI.* and *XXIV.*

In 1553 there were here "iij great belles & one Sanctus bell."*

Two of those ancient bells still remain.

The inscription on the 1st is in rather small gothic capital letters which, with the same cross, are upon the single bell at Manton.

Of S. Mary of Hawardby—or Hawerby, as the place is now called—a village not far from Laceby, nothing is now known. As the Images

* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

of Mary of Walsingham,* and Dervel Gadarn† had wide reputations—the former in England, the latter in North Wales—so, doubtless, there were, in pre-Reformation times, many others whose reputations were local—confined to the immediate neighbourhood in which they stood. As is well known, a figure or painted representation of the Patron Saint of the church was very generally set up therein ; thus, to quote Lincolnshire examples, at Belton, in the Isle of Axholme (All Saints) there was "an Idol of all halowes;" at Corby (S. John the Evangelist) there was an "Image of St. Johnne Evang . . ;" at Edenham there were "the images of Saint Michael being patron of the churche;" at Folkingham an "Image called St. Andrewe vppon the wch the parish church of ffolkinghm drewe his name;" and at Gayton-le-Marsh was "a picture of St. George" the patron of that church. It is equally well known that other Images in addition to that of the Patron Saint were also placed in churches: thus at Bassingham, dedicated to S. Michael we find a figure of "peter;" at Bonby it is recorded that in addition to the usual figures of SS. Mary and John from the rood-loft, other "such like Idols" were burned;‡ so at Hawerby, where the church is dedicated to S. Margaret, there was, without doubt, a much esteemed figure of the B. V. Mary, the only memorial of which is preserved on this bell at Laceby.

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* Edward IV. undertook a pilgrimage to our Lady of Walsingham to avert a great calamity which was supposed to be foretold by extraordinary appearances in the air. See Dugdale's *Monasticon* (Ed. 1817, Vol. II. p. 104).

† There was (*temp.* Henry VIII.) a famous wooden image of Dervel Gadarn in the church of Llandderfel in Edeyrnion, Merionethshire, to which people came in great numbers, and from great distances, with offerings of every kind—"somme with Kyne, other with oxen or horsis, & the reste withe money." Indeed so profitable was the image from the offerings of the pilgrims, that the parson and the parishioners offered a bribe of £40 to the Commissioner-General of the diocese to induce him to allow the image to remain. It was, however, sent to London, and was consumed in the same fire in Smithfield with an unfortunate friar named Forrest, who was burnt on the 30th May, 1538, for denying the King's supremacy.—*Arch. Cambrensis*, April, 1874, p. 152.

‡ Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* pp. 45, 61, 74, 80, 83, 41, 53.

The inscription on the 2nd bell (like the single bell at Bag Enderby) is in well executed bold gothic letters.

LANGRICK VILLE.

— ? 1 Bell.

This modern church, erected in 1818, has one small bell.

LANGTOFT.

S. Michael. 5 Bells.

1, 2. [+ 2] THOMAS NORRIS MADE MEE 1662.
(Diams. 31, 34½ in.; both turned.)

3. JOHN SPINNEL CHURCHWARDEN EDWARD ARNOLD FECIT 1772 + +
(Diam. 36 in.)

4. Rev^D John Mossop Rector John Gee Churchwarden 1810. T. Mears & Son of London Fecit.
(Diam. 38½ in.)

5. T. Mears of London Fecit 1825.
(Diam. 42½ in.)

For Stamp see page 52.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "ij handbells," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold and defaced.*

The Rev. John Mossop (4th bell) of Queen's College, Oxford; M.A. 1799; appears to have done occasional duty here in 1779 when he was Curate of Dunsby. He became Vicar of Baston in 1781 and of this parish in 1801, being then also Curate of Deeping S. James. He appears to have held that curacy and the Living of Baston until his death in 1834. He was buried at Deeping S. James. By his Will he

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 111.

left lands in Baston, Langtoft, and Deeping S. James for the benefit of poor widows in those parishes.*

See under Baston for a tradition as to these bells.

362 LANGTON [BY HORNCASTLE].

S. MARGARET. 1 BELL.

1. ANNO DOMINI 1579 R.G.

In 1553 Langton in Gartree Wapentake possessed "iij gret bells & a sanctus bell."†

363 LANGTON S. ANDREW.

S. ANDREW. 1 BELL.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 12 in.)

A modern bell; the church was erected in 1847.

364 LANGTON-BY-PARTNEY.

S. PETER. 6 BELLS.

1, 3, 4, 5. CAST BY T. MEARS LONDON 1825.

(Diams. 28, 32, 34, 36 in.)

2. WE WERE GIVEN BY JOHN STEPHEN LANGTON LORD OF THIS FREE WARREN. CAST BY T. MEARS LONDON 1825.

(Diam. 30 in.)

6. ARE YOU PREPARED FOR ME TO CALL YOU. CAST BY T. MEARS LONDON 1825.

(Diam. 38 in.)

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* See *Gent. Mag.* Vol. III. N. S. (1835), p. 103.

† *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

In 1552, when the Inventory of Church Goods belonging to "Lanton juxta ꝑtnay" was made, the bells and their value were entered thus:—

It' iij bells and one litle belle ..... x*li.**

John Stephen Langton, Esq., the donor of the present bells—descended from a long line of ancestors said to have been settled here for 800 years—was the son of George Langton by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Mainwaring, Esq. He died in the year 1833, aged 37 years. He gave (writes the Rector of the Parish) a ring of the sweetest bells in Lincolnshire to one of the ugliest churches in Christendom.†

LANGTON-BY-WRAGBY.

S. Giles. 4 Bells.

1, 2, 3. 1822.

(Diams. 27½, 28½, 31 in.)

4. JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER BARTON 1822.

(Diam. 35 in.)

Inside the large bell is inscribed:—

These bells were hung Dec 21. 1822 T Bartholomew Churchwarden J. Pinon Clerk.

LAUGHTON.

All Saints. 3 Bells.

1. REVD RICHARD ATKINSON A : B : CURATE JOHN WRIGHT CHURCHWARDEN 1841.

(Diam. 34 in.)

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 78, P. R. Off.

† See a Pedigree of this family in Hill's *Langton*, &c., p. 18.

2. [□ 107] OMNES SANCTI ORATE
[▽ 127] PRO NOBIS
(Diam. 37½ in.)

3. [□ 107] Hec Campana Sacra Fiat Trinitate Beata 1607
R D T T G D
(Diam. 40 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XV.* and page 114.

In 1553 there were here "iij great bells j sanctus bell."*

In 1565 the churchwardens reported that "one handbell" did "yet remayne," and that the "sacring bell," with other things, were "made awaie but the aboue named churchwarde can not learne how thei were gon."†

The Priest's bell (probably the old Sanctus bell recast) was removed to the chapel-of-ease at Wildsworth, when it was built there in 1838. (See under Wildsworth.)

The bell-frames were thoroughly repaired in 1877. The 1st bell was cast by Harrison.

LAVINGTON OR LENTON.

S. PETER. 3 BELLS.

1. [▽ 124 □ 126 □ 125 □ 76.]
(Diam. 28¾ in.)

2. [▽ 124] huius sci edmundi.
(Diam. 32 in.)

3. [+ 116] IESVS BE OVR SPEDE
[H D 149 and 150] [□ 153] [E *fleur-de-lys* R]
Band ornament [□ 118 □ 115.]
(Diam. 34 in.)

For Stamps see pages 111, 113, 112, 79, 107, 123, *Plate XXII.*, page 108, and *Plate XVII.*

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 112.

In 1565-6 the churchwardens reported that "one sacringe bell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's days, had passed into the hands of "Mr Edmond Haselwood of Handbie graung," who "had and vsed [it] in his house (as he said) to call worck folke to dinner."*

The bells have recently been rehung in new frames.

LEA.

S. Helen. 4 Bells.

1. John Taylor and Son of Loughborough 1853 + Not unto us.
(Diam. 26 in.)
2. John Taylor and Son founders Loughborough 1853 + Glory to God.
(Diam. 28 in.)
3. John Taylor and Son founders Loughborough + on earth peace.
(Diam. 30 in.)
4. John Taylor and Son founders Loughborough mdccccliii.
In hon : Dei : Opt : Max :
et comm : R : T : Lowe in Ins :
Mader : ol : Eccl : Ang : fid : preb :
et . cap . 1852.
(Diam. 32 in.; key C.)

In 1553 there were here "iij grat belles."†

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "ij handbelles," borrowed of John Hodgson, "late bayle of Lea in the tyme of Quene Marie," had been returned to him at the death of the Queen; and that "one sacringe bell," which the parish had borrowed of William Theaker at the same time, had also been returned to him.‡

The three "great bells" hanging here in the reign of Edward VI. probably remained until the commencement of the present century. At that time three bells were taken down, the tenor is said to have been

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 114. † *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off.
‡ Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 113.

sold to the parish of Willingham, a village about three miles from hence, and the two smaller ones cast into four light bells by Harrison of Barton-on-Humber. These four bells constituted the ring until the year 1853, when they were recast into the present ring by the Loughborough founders* [see under Willingham-by-Stow], under circumstances recorded thus on a brass plate over the door of the belfry:—

> To the praise and glory of God
> The four bells in this tower were recast into a heavier peal, and humbly offered to Almighty God in this church and parish of Lea A.D. 1853 by the congregation in Madeira of the Rev. Richard Thomas Lowe M.A. in thankfulness for his ministry and in recognition of the service rendered by him to the church at large as chaplain in Madeira from A.D. 1832 to A.D. 1852.

Mr. Lowe continued to act as chaplain at Madeira, during three months every year, for many years; he was eventually drowned on his way out, the vessel and all on board being lost.

LEADENHAM.

S. Swithin. 6 Bells.

1. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1855.
2. VENITE EXVLREMVS.
3. Blank.
4. DANIEL HEDDERLY CAST VS ALL IN 1723.
5. FRA. MEYMOT T CARTER C W 1723.
6. RECAST A.D. 1868
   REV^D OFFLEY SMITH M.A. VICAR
   JOSEPH MORLEY ROBERT HARVEY CHURCHWARDENS
   MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON.

Prior to 1855 (when the treble was added) there were only five bells.

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* Ex. infor. Sir Charles Anderson, Bart.

LEAKE.

S. Mary. 6 Bells.

1. J. TAYLOR & CO. FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1878.
(Diam. 27½ in.)
2. THE CHVRCHIS PRAIS I SOVND ALL WAYS 1751 THOˢ HEDDERLY FOUNDER.
(Diam. 30½ in.)
3. [+ 1] RICHARD FYNN JOHN CLAY W BAWTREE BENEFACTORS TOBIE ИORRIS CAST ME 1682.
(Diam. 32½ in.)
4. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH SKYNER BAILY VIC. ROB FRAИCIS WARDEИ 1750.
(Diam. 35 in.)
5. [□ 6] THOMAS NORRIS MADE ME 1642.
(Diam. 37½ in.)
6. [+ 2] THOMAS NORRIS MADE ME 1655 T B W T.
(Diam. 41 in.)

For Stamps see pages 52 and 53.
Prior to 1878 there were only five bells.
The Register has the following:—

Memorandum that the 1st and 2nd Bells in Leake were purchased in the year of our Lord God 1682 by voluntary subscription as follows:—

	£.	s.	d.
Richard Fynn & Richard his son	7	0	0
Henry Conington	5	0	0
Jacob Conington	5	0	0
John Clay	5	0	0
Wᵐ Lawson	8	0	0
Abram Lawson	5	0	0
John Boultall of Cambridge	3	0	0
William Bawtree	3	0	0

The sum contributed was just £65. though some of the Benefactors are forgotten, the register being burned September 8th, 1700. The above are fairly and faithfully recorded by me

Jacob Conington
Vicar of Leake.*

The Rev. Skyner Bailey was instituted as Vicar in 1729, and held the living until 1764.

Tradition asserts that a bell belonging to Leake was lost in the Fen near Eastville during its transit from the foundry to the church. A dyke in Eastville is still known as Bellwater Drain.

LEAKE.

CHRIST CHURCH. 1 BELL.

The small bell here, which does not weigh 1 cwt., was supplied by a tradesman at Hull.

LEASINGHAM.

S. ANDREW. 4 BELLS.

1. [+ 116] IHESVS BE OVR SPEED 1617.
(Diam. 30 in.)

2. [+ 116] GOD SAVE THE KING 1617.
(Diam. 33 in.)

3. [+ 116] GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1617.
(Diam. 36 in.)

4. [□ 107] [▽ 127] S [+ 140] S [+ 140.]
(Diam. 42 in.)

For Stamps see page 107, *Plate XV.*, and pages 114 and 118.

* Kindly extracted by the Rev. H. J. Swallow.

LEGBOURNE.

All Saints. 3 Bells.

1. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1863.
[*Royal* ▽ *Arms.*]
PATENT.
(Diam. 32 in.)
2. S [+ 140] S [+ 140] S [+ 140.]
(Diam. 35 in.)
3. GOD SAVE HIS CHURCH 1706 [O 7.]
(Diam. 38 in.)

For Stamps see pages 118 and 59.

LEGSBY.

S. Thomas. 1 Bell.

There being no ladder within a reasonable distance I have not been able to get this small bell—a mere ting-tang and most probably devoid of inscription—examined. *Many years* ago there was this local rhyme:—

A little ting-tang in a little steeple,
or
A thack church and a wooden steeple,
A drunken parson and wicked people.

LEVERTON.

S. Helen. 4 Bells.

1. [+ 2] THOMAS · NORRIS · MADE · ME · AND · THE · REST · OF · MY · FELLOWES · AS · YOV · MAY · SE · 1635.
(Diam. 30¼ in.)
2. JOHN FAWCETT CHURCHWARDEN 1819.
(Diam. 31¾ in.)

3. EL · READING · RI · MOANKE · RI · LAWES · JO · GREENE 1635.

(Diam. 34½ in.)

4. [+ 2] W · CLAY · AL · MVCKBODIE · CH · WA · 1635 · F · BOWMAN · E · PINCHBECK · RECTORS.

(Diam. 37¾ in.)

For Stamps see page 52.

The Churchwardens' Accounts here are unusually well preserved. The following extracts refer to the bells:—

1492.	In p'imo sol' Joh'i Clark ꝑ emend vni' bell coler ...	j*d.*
	It' sol' Thōe Silam ꝑ fact' viij° l'i hempe	ij*d.*
	It' sol' Walt' Wytnese ꝑ trussyng of ye bells.....	vj*d.*
	It' sol' Edm° Hopkynson ꝑ emen' campan'	j*d.*
	Itm̃ sol' ꝑ le Carage magne campane	ij*s.* iiij*d.*
	Itm̃ sol' ꝑ le trossyng dæ campane	ij*s.* iiij*d.*
1495.	Itm̃ sol' Willm̃o wryght de Bennyngton ꝑ le hengyng of ye grette belle	ij*s.*
	Itm̃ for a ston hempe to ye bellstryng	v*d.*
	It' for makyng of ye same hempe.....	iiij*d.*
1498.	Itm̃ payd for belstrynges	v*d.*
	Itm̃ payd to ye Smyt of leke for hyngyng of ye bells	vj*d.*
	Itm̃ payd for makyng clen of ye bell hows lofte.....	j*d.*
	Itm̃ payd to Wiłłm Wryth for ye bell welys	xiiij*d.*
	Itm̃ payd for bellstryng	vj*d.* *ob.*
	Itm̃ payd to John Clarke for makyng of a bawdre* to ye bell	j*d.*
	Itm̃ payd to Wyllm Wryth for makyng of ye bell wells†.....	xij*d.*
	Itm̃ for makyng of a coller to ye lyttyll bell	j*d.*
1503.	Itm̃ in expencys at boston whan ye bell was schot‡	xx*d.*
	Itm̃ payd for a bell clapper dressyng at boston.....	ij*s.*

* Bauderick. † Wheels. ‡ Cast.

Itm̃ payd to John Dalbe for bavdree makyng to ye bells ..... vj*d.*
Itm̃ payd for a handbell makyng at boston ..... vij*d.*
Itm̃ payd to Rici messur whan ye bells was last hungyn ..... vj*d.*
Itm̃ payd for ye Sancte bell stryng ..... ij*d.*
Itm̃ payd for a hand bell makyng at boston ..... vj*d.*
Itm̃ payd to ye plummar for makyng of ye Sant' bell ..... vj*d.*
Itm̃ payd to John Red bellgedar* of boston for schotyng of a bell ..... iij*li.* vj*s.* viij*d.*
Itm̃ in expencys at ye samtyme..... v*d.*
1506. Itm̃ payd for tackytts to the bell wells ..... ij*d.*
Itm̃ payd to John Walcar for makyng of ye sam bell well..... iiij*d.*
Itm̃ payd for makyng of a bolder to ye bell qwell... j*d.*
Itm̃ payd for makyng of ij bell stryngs ..... ij*d.*
Itm̃ payd for a stryng to the Sants bell ..... *ob.*
1512. Itm̃ Resseuyd of Rici' messur for ye hold bell clapers ..... xix*d.*

Expencys.

In the forst payd in Ernyst whan wye fest hour bells to make ..... iiij*d.*
Itm̃ in expencys the sam day at boston ..... viij*d.*
Itm̃ in expencys a noder day at boston whan Mast' ꝑson was ther ..... viij*d.*
Itm̃ in expencys thayt day hour bells war schotte iij*s.* viij*d.*
Itm̃ payd for strykyng of the bylls ..... iij*d.*
Itm̃ payd for pawꝑ ..... *ob.*
Itm̃ in expencys whan wye fette the bells fro boston viij*d.*
Itm̃ in expencys at boston for John Aclyf & John harthro ..... iiij*d.*

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* Bellyeter, *i.e.*, bellfounder.

Itm̃ payd to lenard pynchbec of boston in payrt of payment for hour bells gyddynge* ..... vij*li.* ix*s.*
Itm̃ payd for iiij bolders to hour bells ..... iij*s.* iiij*d.*
Itm̃ payd for ij baddryks to ye bells ..... viij*d.*
Itm̃ in expencys in bred & alle whan ye bells wer weyd ..... iiij*d.*
Itm̃ payd to the Smyth of Bennyngton ..... xx*d.*
Itm̃ payd for ij oblygacyon wrytyng in boston ..... xj*d.*
Itm̃ to John hauthro for hyngyng of the bells... xxvj*s.* viij*d.*
Itm̃ payd the last pay for hour bells ..... vij*li.* v*s.* viij*d.*
Itm̃ payd to harry Est gate for clymyng to ye sante bell ..... j*d.*
Itm̃ payd for iij Kayys makyng & mendyng ye start of ye sante bell ..... ix*d.*
1515. Itm̃ payd for clement ye wryth whan I fet hym to se hour bells ..... ij*d.*
Itm̃ payd for Clement ye wryth denar† & for arewarde ..... vj*d.*
Itm̃ payd to John Wallcar for a day wyrkyng abwt ye bell wells ..... vj*d.*
1516. Itm̃ payd for the terment of Water bussche & hys wyfe to prestys & clarks & ryngyng & bred & all & chesse ..... v*s.*
1517. Itm̃ payd for a ston hempe to make bell stryngs wyth ix*d.*
Itm̃ payd for makyng of ye sam hempe..... v*d.*
Itm̃ payd for the santus bell makyng ..... ij*s.*
1520. Itm̃ sol' pro linia ad puam campanam vocat sanct' bell pulsand ..... j*d.ob.*
1524. Itm̃ Recevyd of John hopkynson for ye bequeth of Wyllyā hopkyson hys ffader to the bells ..... xij*d.*
Itm̃ payd to Wyllā Josson carpentar for helpyng of ye bellfray agayns halomese ..... v*d.*

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* Yetting, *i.e.*, casting.

† The wright's dinner.

Itm̃ payd to the Smyth for ij sacrye bell clapersse ij*d.*
Itm̃ payd for a ston & a halfe of hempe for bell stryngs & for makyng of ye same..... xv*d.ob.*
1526. payd to nycholas ye smyth for a wyndyng of yryn to ye sec'nd bell whele..... ij*d.*
payd in expens whan wyllyam Josson carpenter helpyd the bell fraym ..... iij*d.*
payd to thomas Walkar for fellyng & hewyng of . . . . iij*d.*
paid to gylbert dayle of boston for tymber ..... xxx*s.* viij*d.*
paid to laurens belman of boston for tymber ..... ix*s.*
paid in expn̄ at bryng of ye said tymber ..... j*d.*
paid to wyllyam Josson for helpyng to chewes ye said tymber & helpyng of ye bells ..... viij*d.*
paid for drawyng of ye tymber ov' ye bargn y^t^ was bought of laurens bellman..... vj*d.*
paid in expen att cartyng of the tymber at boston iiij*ob.*
paid for a ston of hempe & makyng of ye same in bellstryngs ..... x*d.*
paid for hyngyng vp of ye santt' bell stryng ..... j*d.*
paid to Rodlay ye wryght for me'dyng of ye bells agayns halomes [*Hallowmas*]..... iiij*d.*
1528. Itm̃ for the obbit of Walt' busche & Margar Walt' & Agnes for breed xij*d.* for aile xij*d.* for a ston of chese ix*d.* . . . . . for dirige ij*d.* for Ryngyng ij*d.* [&c.]
Itm̃ for a bolte of yryn & ij haspis & ij forloks for ye sec'nd bell ..... ij*d.*
paid for a new bawdryke to ye littyll bell to John busche seni' ..... ij*d.*
paid to John busche ye eld for a bawdrycke to the secund bell ..... ij*d.*
paid for a littill sanct antony bell* ..... i*d.*

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* See p. 197.

1531. Rec. of Ric. Sylame for ye Rent of grafte crofte with ye makyng of ye bell strynges ..... iiij*s.*
It' paid to Nicolas ye smyth for ye sanctus bell & helpyng of it agan ..... ij*s.* iiij*d.*
It' paid to stephen Wodows for chaungyng of ye sanct' bell ..... x*s.* v*d.*
It' to hug Sleforth for ij tymes hengyng of ye sanct' bell ..... xvj*d.*

Under this date the following memorandum is entered, from which it appears that the price of three acres of land had been expended upon the bells, instead of (as intended by the testator) in the purchase of a cope :—

Also for reformacōn of last wylle of walt' bowsche latt of leu'ton wyllyd yn ys last will iij acr land to be solld to by a cope wt and the ꝑsysconars* at that tyme dyde sell foresayd iij acr land and mayd thei bells there wt wytche was agans good conshans.†

1533. It' to Ryc' smyt for makyng of ye bell clapper ..... ij*d.*
It' for v quarters hempe for bell strygs ..... x*d.*
It' for makyng ye saym hympe ..... v*d.*
1537. ffyrst payd to William lyme y^t^ he layd out to the smyght for medyng of the lytyll bell ..... ij*d.*
Itm̃ payd vnto Johne busche that he layd forthe to the smyght for the Santt' bell ..... iiij*ob.*
Itm̃ payd to Robertt Jordan carpynter wan we fest the bell frame w^t^ hym for erts [*earnest*]..... xviij*s.*iiij*d.*
Itm̃ payd to the same Robertt Jordan Carpynter wan he had done hys bargane ..... xl*s.*

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* Parishioners.

† The obits of Walter Bussche and his wife were commemorated in this church. He probably was the benefactor referred to in the text. The bells had been increased in number twenty years previously, as may be inferred from the entries of payments.

Itm̃ payd for the brekefast wan the bell frame and the bells rassed at Wyberds ..... xxij*d.*

Itm̃ payd to William Wytton for makyng clene of the bell layft ..... iiij*d.*

Itm̃ payd to the clarke for Ryngyng for John grene wyffe ..... ij*d.*

1538. Itm̃ payd to davyt the wryght for helpyng of the bells and thayr wells for wags ..... ij*s.* iiij*d.*

Itm̃ payd for hemppe for stryngs to ye bells ..... x*d.*

Itm̃ payd for makyng of ye same to Ryc' byland ..... v*d.*

Itm̃ payd for hale whan we war abowt the bells and wan we fest ye wryght to bord ..... ij*d.*

Itm̃ payd for bording of ye wryght ..... xiiij*d.*

Itm̃ payd for drynke wan we payd hym ..... j*d.*

Itm̃ payd to John busche for on daye wt davyd a bowt the bells for wages and bord ..... iiij*d.*

1543. ffyrst payd to Wyllam grestcroft ye eldther of leeke for helpyng of the bell fraye ..... xj*s.*

Itm̃ payd for hym and his compeny whan he come to seytt att John benetts in drynk ..... vj*d.*

Itm̃ payd for bred and drynke whan he [the smith] was a bowtte the bells and whan he mayd a nende off them att John benetts to the ryngers for to se how y^ui^ went ..... iiij*d.*

Itm̃ payd for iij bell tonges ..... iij*d.*

Itm̃ payd for wytt ledder mēdyng off the bauderethe of the bells ..... iiij*d.*

1546. It' for a lether whonge to ye lyttle bell ..... iij*d.*

It' to pedd' for trussyng ye said bell ..... vj*d.*

It' to M' sleford for hyngyng vp ye said bell ..... xij*d.*

1556. It' p^d^ for mendynge the belles vpon alhallow nyght ..... vj*d.*

	It' p[d] for the full contentation of the ryngeres vpon alhallow nyght*	xix*ob.*
1557.	It' pd for the full paymēt of the ryngeres vpon psalmes nyght† over & besyds towe & twentye pencs gatheryd of the paryshyoners	xiiij*d.*
1558.	It' pd to John Randawle for shottynge the for bell clapper	xij*d.*
1580.	Impmis pd to Thom̃s Skottyll for one daye worke aboute the bells before St hewe day	viij*d.*
1581.	Itm̃ rec. of henrye hopkynson for the bequeste of Richarde Slowe for Belstryngs.....	xx*d.*
1583.	Itm̃ pd to John Randoll Smythe for mackynge y[e] goginge for y[e] second bell [&c.]	iij*s.*
1585.	Itm̃ pd for bread & ale to y[e] ringers on S[t] hewe day	xiij*d.*
1586.	Itm̃ pd to the rynggers on St. hewe day	xij*d.*
1589.	Itm̃ pd to y[e] Ringgers of S[t] hughe day	ij*s.*
1590.	Itm̃ pd to ij Ringers of S[t] hughe daie	iiij*d.*
	Itm̃ for Bread & drinke the same daie	ij*s.*
	Itm̃ for candle & grece on S hughe day	iiij*d.*
	Itm̃ pd to the Smith ffor Iron worke for the second Bell called St. Peter	iij*s.* iiij*d.*
	Itm̃ pd to Jo. Wilson for Trussinge her vp	ij*s.*
1594.	Itm̃ expended on the Ringgers the xvij day of November‡	xix*d.*
1595.	Itm̃ pd to the ringgers on St huge day	xij*d.*
	Itm̃ pd on St hughe day for Bread drinke & candle	xiij*d.*
1597.	Itm̃ for sope against St hughe day	iij*d.*
	Itm̃ for Bread on S[t] hughes even	iij*d.*
1598.	Itm̃ pd for Bread & drinke on S[t] hugh's day	ij*s.* iij*d.*

* At this time bells were tolled during the whole night of All Hallows, and continued on the morrow on All Souls' Day (see p. 227-8).

† Psalmes—soul mas (see p. 229).

‡ S. Hugh's Day, the day of Queen Elizabeth's accession.

	Itm̃ pd to viij ringgers on St hughes day	iiij*s.*
	Itm̃ for candle	i*d.*
1599.	Itm̃ pd to John Wilson for a newe bushe for the great bell & mendinge fallts about thoth^{r} bells ...	vj*d.*
	Itm̃ pd for bread drinck & cheeze for ye ring^{rs} on St Hugh day	v*s.*
1600.	Itm̃ pd to Anthony harte for a strick of mawlt brewed against St Hewgh day for ringers then ...	iij*s.* iiij*d.*
1601.	Itm̃ pd for a strike mawlt for the Ringers against St Hughes day	ij*s.* viij*d.*
	Itm̃ pd for two peckes of wheat and rye and for grindinge it	ij*s.*
	Itm̃ pd for grease & candle then	vij*d.*
1602.	[Malt, wheat & rye against S. Hugh's day]	
	It' pd for Thre stone of Beif & white bread that day expended	vj*s.*
1610.	Itm̃ pd for bread & drinke for the ringher the fifte of November	ij*s.* ij*d.*
1612.	Pd for Aile breade Cake & cheese on Ringinge day	viij*s.* vj*d.**

The names of the churchwardens on the 4th bell have been read as one name "W. Clay alias Muckbodie," the first being a supposed refined *alias* of the second; but under the date 1635 in the Register is this entry:—

Willyam Clay
Alexander Muckboddie } Churchwardens.

The appearance of the names of two Rectors on the same bell is explained by the fact that Leverton had formerly two distinct rectories, which were called the boreal and the austral medieties. The tithes of the parish were equally divided between the two rectors, and each of

* For the above extracts I am much indebted to the Rev. J. T. Fowler, F.S.A., and to the Rev. W. W. Mason, Rector of Leverton.

them possessed a separate rectory house, both of which stood within a small enclosed space on the south eastern side of the churchyard. This arrangement was in force until the two medieties were consolidated by an Act of Parliament passed in 1800.*

Francis Bowman was Rector of the south mediety and Edmund Pinchbeck that of the north mediety.†

Formerly there was no floor between the ringers below and the bells above, and on one occasion, it is said, a clapper broke away from a bell, whilst ringing was going on, and killed a ringer below.

LIMBER MAGNA.

S. Peter. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 116] GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1595 [□ 113.]
(Diam. 30 in.)

2. [+ 116] IESVS BE OVR SPEDE 1595 [□ 113]
(Diam. 33 in.)

3. [+ 116] GOD SAVE OVR QVEENE 1595 [□ 113]
[□ 114]
(Diam. 36 in.)

For Stamps see page 107 and *Plates XVI.* and *XVII.*

These are three uniform and well preserved bells by Henry Oldfield of Nottingham, with the inscriptions in his fine large gothic letters. The 3rd has the Royal Arms of Queen Elizabeth. They are chimed by levers instead of wheels.

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* Thompson's *Boston*, p. 557. † Ib. p. 558.

LINCOLN GUILDHALL.

CVM OVIS CAMPANAM RE-
SERET SACCVM BONVS
AVDIT ET CVRIAM PLA-
NAM FORE CVM SCITOTE
REPRAVDIT
TEMPORE VVILLI BECLE MA-
IORIS LINCOLNIE CIVI-
TATIS [▽ 119.]

(Diam. 20½ in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XVIII.*

Though not belonging to a church this is too curious a bell to be omitted in an account of the campanology of the county. It is probably the most interesting ancient Mote bell existing in the kingdom.

Mercatorial Guilds were in existence in Lincoln, as in other large towns, before the Norman Conquest, and enjoyed special privileges.

By a charter of Richard I., dated in 1195, the citizens were to have, once a week, a Burgwardmote, or meeting of the Burg-wardens, that is, in modern idiom, a Common Council.

By a charter of King John, signed 23rd April, 1200, the citizens were allowed to elect two provosts, instead of one as previously, to take the chief management of the city, and to be removable at the will of the Common Council. It was early in the thirteenth century, perhaps in the reign of King John, that the supremacy of the civil power, formerly enjoyed by the *prepositus* or provost, was transferred to another individual designated in mediæval Latinity *Major Civitatis*, and in the vernacular speech, the Mayor of the city. At what time, and in what manner, this important dignity was first conferred on the chief citizen is not perhaps ascertainable, as there is no mention of such person in any of the preceding records: nor is it shown whether or not these early Mayors were possessed of the same magisterial power as was vested in their suc-

cessors. On the Pipe Rolls, in the year 1210, it is stated that the citizens of Lincoln owed the exchequer £100 that they might have Adam for their Mayor so long as he pleased the King. However, before the middle of the thirteenth century several citizens had enjoyed the dignity of *Major Civitatis*, and had held a rank above that of the ancient Provosts, who, about that period, are mentioned by the name of Bailiffs. The citizens were several times deprived of their Mayor, specially in 1290, when the King instead of a *Major Civitatis* appointed a *Custos Civitatis*, who undertook the farming of the city, and all its revenues arising from tolls, rents, &c., then fallen into the King's hands: nor was it till the end of the century that the office was restored. At the close of the year 1300 the King came to Lincoln, where he stayed for some time, for the purpose of holding a Parliament, and the citizens, it appears, while he was their guest, besought him to restore them their Mayor and to confirm their charters, which he did.

By a charter of Edward III., given 7th October, 1327, "a Burgmanmote was to be held once a week in the Guild Hall, on the monday, by the Mayor & Bailiffs, and all pleas of the aforesaid city were there to be held & impleaded before them without interference from the officers of the King, except in pleas of transgressions, conventions, & contract made in the King's Hospice," &c., &c.*

The Mayor of Lincoln was firmly on his seat when the present Guildhall bell (the inscription on which probably refers to the hearing of these "pleas") was provided in the year 1371. (See p. 255.)

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL.

The earliest date in connection with the bells of Lincoln Cathedral is mentioned by Stukeley,† who states that a gift of two was made by Robert de Chesney, the fourth Bishop of the Diocese (1148—1167), and the builder of the ancient Bishop's Palace; but as I find no authority

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* *Civitas Lincolinia*, pp. 71-6.

† *Itinerarium*, p. 92.

for this statement, it will be well to consider Geoffry Plantagenet, the natural son of King Henry II., who held the temporalities of the See, but was never consecrated its Bishop, as the first recorded donor of bells to the Cathedral Church of Lincoln. He gave (A.D. 1173—1182) to the Cathedral, amongst other ornaments, a pair of large and sonorous bells. Giraldus Cambrensis says:—

> Ipse quoque ornatus ecclesiæ suæ plurimum propriis donariis amplificavit. Cui et inter cetera quoque campanas duas grandes, egregias atque sonoras devota largitione donavit.*

This pair of bells hung in one of the western towers, the lower parts of which were erected about the year 1140. What bells the Cathedral possessed prior to Geoffry Plantagenet's gift, and whether his bells were the predecessors of the ring in S. Hugh's steeple, or of "Great Tom," which originally hung in the North-western Tower, cannot now be determined.

Two more bells, as we shall see presently, were placed in the Central, Broad, or Rood Tower, when that magnificent structure was raised by Bishop John D'Alderby (1307-11).

These four ancient bells were, as I take it, the precursors of those for which Lincoln was so long famous, namely, "Great Tom," originally placed in the North-western Tower; the ring in the South-western Tower, usually called S. Hugh's Steeple; and the fine ring of six Lady Bells, which, until the present century, graced the Central, Broad, or Rood Tower. In attempting to give an account of these bells it will be well to do so in the three divisions just indicated, commencing with those which no longer exist—the Lady Bells.

The Lady Bells.

In the year 1307 John D'Alderby, consecrated Bishop of Lincoln seven years previously, issued letters of indulgence, in which, after

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* Giraldus Cambrensis (*Opera*, Vol. VII. p. 37), *Vita S. Remigii*, Master of Rolls' Ed. John de Schalby (*Ib.* p. 198) has the same passage.

setting forth the duty of paying special reverence to the Blessed Virgin, he desired the faithful to assist in raising the central tower of the Cathedral to her honour. This was done in so sumptuous a manner that the magnificent structure is pronounced not only the highest, but the finest, central tower in England. The appeal of the Bishop was made at a time when the reverence paid to the Virgin had reached its meridian in this country—when England was called "Our Lady's Dower" as Ireland the "Island of Saints"—it is therefore not surprising that means were at once forthcoming which enabled him to prosecute the work so rapidly that four years afterwards—in 1311—we read of the executors of Gilbert D'Eivill, formerly a treasurer of the church, being condemned in the cost of two ropes for the bells then lately hung in the *new tower*. The *Chapter Act Book* has the following entry:—

> Memorandum quod die Sabbati proxime post Festum Sanctorum Fabiani et Sebastiani [*i.e.* Saturday 23 Jan. 1311] Decano et ceteris canonicis residentibus more solito in capitulo congregatis condempnati fuerunt executores testamenti Domini Gilberti Deivill quondam Thesaurarii ecclesiae Lincoln in duabus cordis campanarum tunc noviter in medio campanili suspensarum.

The two bells, thus provided with ropes, were the precursors of the ring of the six Lady Bells which gave the name of Lady-Bell-Steeple to the new tower.

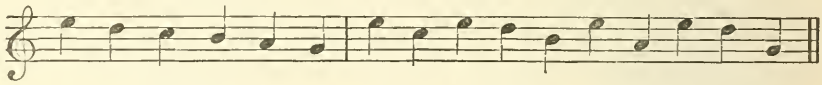
When the number of bells was increased from two to six, and whether the increase was gradual (which, as will be shown, is most probable), or made at one time, cannot now be said. When the Muniments belonging to the Dean and Chapter are arranged and made consultable, which useful work is now being gradually carried out by Canon Wickenden, some light will doubtless be thrown upon their history. At present the *Computus* for the year 1593, when four of these bells were cast, is missing, and though the *Chapter Acts* for 1633 and 1737 are accessible, they give no information about the other two bells cast in those years.

In 1834, when these bells were taken down for removal to London, they were found to be inscribed as under:—

1. Jesus be our speed 1633.
2. Soli Deo Gloria in excelsis. Daniel Hedderly Founder 1737.
3. Cum voce sonora Thomam Campana laudet 1593.
4. Sum Rosa pulsata mundi Katerina vocata 1593.
5. In multis annis resonat Campana Johannis 1593.
6. Sum Rosa pulsata mundi Maria vocata 1593.

The four largest bells bore the founder's mark fig. 105, *Plate XV.*, showing them to have been cast by Robert Quernbie and Henry Oldfield (see p. 104) who, doubtless, reproduced the inscriptions found on the old bells then recast. The tenor note is said to have been one note above that of the present tenor of the ring of eight in S. Hugh's steeple which was cast in the same year. The gross weight of the six bells, taken at the time by Mr. Betham, Surveyor to the Chapter, was 68 cwt. 2 qrs. 4 lbs.

Sir Charles H. J. Anderson writes:—"The Lady Bells were fixed in a row on the floor of the belfry, and are shown in the section plate of Wild's *Lincoln Cathedral.* The ropes of the four largest of the Lady Bells went down to the piers of the great tower below, where the rings, to which they were fixed, still remain. [This tends to show that the number was increased from two to four, and afterwards to six.] The singing boys used to ring them for service, two for common days, four on the eves of Saints' days, on Saturday evenings and on Sundays. On Lady-day the singing boys used to go up into the belfry, tie strings to the clappers of the Lady-bells, and chime them as below. I used, as a boy, to be at Lincoln at that time of the year, and I well remember the charming melody of those bells both when rung out and chimed. I have since imagined, and am more and more convinced, that the chiming on Lady-day was the *Ave Maria*:—



The Peal. Ave Ma-ri-a o-ra pro no-bis.

They used to repeat this for an hour, and finish with the six bells in succession." *

The 3rd of the Lady Bells was rung at 6 a.m. in summer, at 7 a.m. in winter, after which the day of the month was tolled.

The largest Lady Bell was rung on Shrove Tuesday, at noon, as "the Pancake Bell."

This largest bell also used to be tolled forty times at the shutting of the church doors every night, after which the searchers of the church partook of bread and beer provided for them under the watching-chamber—a chamber of timber formerly in the North-East transept. They then walked round and searched the church.

It would appear that these bells required rehanging in the eighteenth century, for there are two letters from Bellfounders preserved amongst the Muniments of the Dean and Chapter: one, dated the 15th of July, 1763, from James Harrison, of Barrow, offering his services to repair the six bells in the "Lady Steeple of the Minster," and another with a similar offer, dated the 8th of July, 1772, from Samuel Turner, of Whitechapel, London. There is also a third letter preserved, dated the 11th of January, 1785, recommending Edward Arnold, of Leicester, as a good man for the work.

"Great Tom" having become cracked in 1827, it was, in 1834, determined to have him recast larger, and to add two new Quarter-bells. To effect this it was (taking advantage of the fact of the 2nd Lady Bell being also slightly cracked, and the whole ring requiring rehanging) unfortunately resolved to give up the fine and interesting ring of six Lady Bells to provide the metal required, but for which purpose it is now universally acknowledged they ought not to have been sacrificed. They were taken to the wharf of Messrs. Sharp, on their way to the London founder, on the 23rd of June, 1834,† and so were for ever lost to the church from which their melody had issued for so many years, and the Cathedral also lost the distinction of being the only one in the

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* *The Ecclesiologist* XXVI. 171, and *Pocket Guide to Lincoln*, 92-4.

† *Stamford Mercury* Newspaper, 27th June, 1834.

kingdom possessed of two rings of bells. This was done to have a great bell that could not be rung, and Quarter-bells which were not required. When the bells reached London, and were examined by Mr. Mears, the founder, he described them as being "very fine bells, very thick for their size, and consequently rich in tone." They were not a heavy ring, the tenor weighing from eighteen to twenty hundred-weight: the slight crack in the shoulder of the 2nd did not extend far, nor did it affect the tone.*

Great Tom and the Quarter-Bells.

Great Tom:—

SPIRITUS SANCTUS A PATRE ET FILIO PROCEDENS SUAVITER SONANS AD SALUTEM ANNO DOMINI 1835 MARTII 25 REGNI GULIELMI QUARTI BRITANNIARUM 5°.

(And round the sound-bow:—)

GEORGIUS GORDON DD DECANUS RICARDUS PRETYMAN MA PRECENTOR GEORGIUS THOMAS PRETYMAN B.C.L. CANCELLARIUS THOMAS MANNERS SUTTON MA SUBDECANUS ET MAGISTER FABRICÆ.

THOMAS MEARS LONDINI FECIT.

(Diam. 6 ft. 10½ in.; weight 5 tons 8 cwt.; key A.)

The Quarter-Bells:—†

1. NOX NOCTI INDICAT SCIENTIAM MARY SEELY ME FECIT FIERI ANNO DOMINI MDCCCLXXX.

(Diam. 35¾ in.; weight 11 cwt. 0 qr. 10 lbs.; note C sharp.)

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* I am indebted to Sir Charles H. J. Anderson, Bart., for much of the information (from his own personal recollections) here given respecting the "Lady Bells."

† The Inscriptions on the 1st and 2nd of the Quarter-bells were suggested by the writer of this Volume; those on the 3rd and 4th were from the pen of the Very Rev. the Dean of Lincoln.

2. DIES DIEI ERUCTAT VERBUM NATHANIEL CLAYTON ME FECIT FIERI ANNO DOMINI MDCCCLXXX.
(Diam. 37¾ in.; weight 12 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs.; note B.)

3. ME · PROPRIO · SUMTU · DENUO · CONFLARI · FECIT · NATHANIEL CLAYTON A. S. MDCCCLXXX°.
VENIT · HORA · ET · NUNC · EST · QUANDO · MORTUI · AUDIENT · VOCEM · FILII · DEI.
(Diam. 39½ in.; weight 13 cwt. 0 qr. 14 lbs.; note A.)

4. ME · VOCE · FRACTÂ · MALE · CONCINENTEM · PROPRIO · SUMTU · LIQUEFIERI · ET · DENUO · CONFLARI · VOLUIT · AELFREDUS SHUTTLEWORTH A. S. MDCCCLXXX°.
VIGILATE · ET · ORATE · NESCITIS · ENIM · QUANDO · TEMPUS · SIT.
(Diam. 51½ in.; weight 27 cwt. 2 qrs. 7 lbs.; note E.)

There are several traditions as to the origin of "Tom of Lincoln." A curious and highly improbable local one is current in the neighbourhood of the Premonstratensian Abbey of Beauchief, Derbyshire, that the great bell of that House, given to it by Prior Robert de Ednessouter, was surreptitiously taken away at midnight to Lincoln—the horses' shoes being reversed to avoid detection—and there became the veritable Tom of Lincoln.*

The Car-dyke, a Roman work commencing on the Nene about half a mile from Peterborough, and terminating in the parish of Washingborough near Lincoln, where it formerly communicated with the Witham, was once a wide and deep catch-water canal; it is also occasionally called the Bell-Dyke from a tradition that the original "Great Tom" was floated on a raft or boat on this canal to its destination all the way from Peterborough, it being sometimes added that the bell was a present from the Abbot of Peterborough to the Cathedral of

* *Historical Memorials of Beauchief Abbey*, by S. O. Addy, p. 38. I suppose this is the same tradition as that mentioned in the *Gent. Mag.* (LXXVII. (1807) p. 1008) to the effect that Great Tom was carried away from a chapel near Sheffield.

Lincoln, and sometimes that it was forcibly taken from his Minster.* This tradition probably arose from the fact (mentioned in my *Church Bells of Northamptonshire*) of Henry Penn, the Peterborough Bellfounder, in the early years of the eighteenth century, having apparently constructed a canal known as "Bell Dyke" from the back of his foundry, of a sufficient size to carry large boats into the river with which it communicated. From his foundry many bells—perhaps including the 6th of the Cathedral ring, cast by him in 1717,—were floated down this Car-dyke into Lincolnshire, and so the name "Bell-Dyke," originally given to the connecting canal between his foundry and the river, would, in time, be given to the larger and older work more generally known as Car-dyke.

There is yet another local tradition: Before the Reformation (so goes the story at Markby, in this county) one of the largest bells in the kingdom swung in the tower of the Priory there, and at the Dissolution it was purloined by John Longlands, the then Bishop of the Diocese, and removed to his Cathedral, where it now bears the name of Great Tom of Lincoln.

So, too, as to the name of this great bell there are diverse opinions. Stukeley says:—"There are many bells [belonging to the Cathedral] particularly one remarkably large call'd Tom of Lincoln, which takes up a whole steeple to itself, probably consecrated to that great champion of the church [that "Saint Traitor" as Fuller calls him] St. Thomas of Canterbury."† Others think that Great Tom is a corruption of *Grand Ton*, or adopted from the name of the bell of Christ Church, Oxford.‡

Setting aside these traditions, it may safely be asserted that for several centuries Lincoln Cathedral has possessed a large single bell, but whether it originated or not in one of those large and sonorous bells given to the Cathedral, as we have seen, by Geoffry Plantagenet between the years 1173, and 1183, has yet to be demonstrated; and as to the name it possibly arose from the supposed assimilation, by the

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* See Bishop Trollope's *Sleaford*, p. 65.

† *Itinerarium* (Ed. 1724), I. 86.

‡ Mr. Walcott's *Memorials of Lincoln and the Cathedral*, *p*. 28.

vulgar, of the boom of the bell, when sounded, to the short name by which it has so long been known.

Although there is little doubt as to the fact, there is no documentary evidence known to me to prove the existence of a "Great Tom" before the reign of Elizabeth. A Broadside about him, dated "Lincoln, June, 1836," and printed by "Edward Bell Drury, Printer, Stonebow, Lincoln," contains the following passage, "The period when the first Great Bell was placed in Lincoln Cathedral is not known. A large Bell was recast there very early in the fourteenth century, and remained until the beginning of the seventeenth century when it was recast," &c., &c., but as the writer gives no authority for his statement, it cannot be accepted as historically correct.

The first recorded reference to "Great Tom" at present found amongst the Muniments of the Dean and Chapter, occurs in a *Computus* headed "Conc'neing ye greate Bell," dated "xxx die Januarii anno Dni 1610[-11]." From it we learn that "Henricus Olldfield de Nottingham et Robertus Nevinson [Newcombe] de Leyster Bellfounders," had recast the old bell which weighed 7,807 pounds "at 112 to the C," which shows the weight to have been 78 cwt. 7 lbs., or 8743 pounds, a fact missed by Browne Willis, and all writers on this bell, who give the weight as 7807 pounds only. This casting was made in a temporary furnace erected in the Minster yard nearly opposite the residence of the sub-dean.

The new bell was larger than its predecessor: it weighed 8838 pounds and a half—that is 88 cwt. 38½ lbs., or 9894½ lbs.—"which at the rate of x*d.* the pownd for the surplusse above the weight of the old bell amounteth to xlvij*li.* xix*s.* & ij*d.*, and so they demanded in all for workmanshipp and mettal added an cxlvij*li.* xix*s.* ij*d.*, and did leave their covenant and bond for warrant of the said bell for 2 yeares and a day after the said xxvij^th^ of January in the hands of me the said Thomas Stirropp" [Chapter-clerk]. The bell was "cast and hung upp and upon Sonday the xxvij of this month [January 1611] ronge owte and all safe and well." * This bell was inscribed:—

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* *Computus* Vol. 1604—1640, MSS. Lincoln Minster.

Spiritvs Sanctvs a Patre et Filio procedens svaviter sonans ad salvtem anno Domini 1610 Decembris 3 Regni Jacobi Anglie 8° et Scotie 44°.

(*and round the rim*)

Lavrentivs Stanton Decanvs Rogervs Parker Precentor et Magister Fabricie Georgivs Eland Cancellarivs et Magister Fabricie Ricardvs Clayton Archidiaconvs Lincoln.

The diameter at its mouth was 6 feet 3½ inches: weight 4 tons, 8 cwt. 1 qr. 10½ lbs.; key B. It was, writes Sir Charles Anderson, beautifully finished with lace work [as a band ornament], and of a peculiarly beautiful shape and tone.

It will be observed that whilst the joint founder with Henry Oldfield is usually said to have been William Newcombe, the Record just quoted says Robert Newcombe. I think both statements are correct. Edward Newcombe, who was at that time the head of the Leicester foundry, was then an old man, and so, no doubt, left much of the business in the hands of his three sons Robert, Thomas, and William.* Now, whilst it was quite natural that the agreement should be made with Robert, the eldest son, as representing his father, there was nothing improbable in the actual work in the Minster Yard at Lincoln being carried out under the direction of William Newcombe his younger brother.

We learn from an entry, dated 21 Sep. 1611, in the *Book of Acts* in the Chapter Library headed "Contributions to the great bell" that £50. towards the cost of recasting was agreed to be paid by the Dean and the Archdeacon—the latter, no doubt, then keeping his greater residence and so representing the Chapter—that there were "other sums" (donations I suppose) "agreed to be paid by other people," and the rest was to be raised by the Receiver and Bailiff of the church, who "shall collect & gather of every tenant ij*s*. vj*d*. in the pound, and that also they doe collect & gather of every Prebendary xij*d*. in the pound of every Prebendarie according to the valuation of their Prebends in the Kinge's

* See *Church Bells of Leicestershire*, p. 54.

books. And that my Lord Bishop's letters may be obtained for that purpose, and that also the Dean and Chapter's letters be written to that purpose. And that the Bishop and his Chancellor may be moved for some commutation money, and to procure the Ministers in all places to move their Parishioners making Wills to contribute to the same. And if nothing be given in the Wills to convent the ministers for their negligence."

No doubt these means soon raised the requisite amount.

"Great Tom," which then hung in the North-Western tower, was one of the sights and sounds of Lincoln. "As loud as Tom of Lincoln" became a proverb; and as "men fabled," according to Stow, that the ringing of the bells of S. Stephen's Chapel at Westminster, "soured all the drink in the town," so the tolling of Tom of Lincoln was said to turn the milk sour for several miles round the Cathedral. Fuller says of him, "Tom of Lincoln may be called the Stentor (fifty lesser bells may be made out of him) of all in this county."* Evelyn, who visited Lincoln in 1654, mentions "the greate bell or Tom as they call it."† Southey, who ascended the tower to see him, writes "At first it disappointed me, but the disappointment wore off, and we became satisfied that it was as great a thing as it was said to be—a tall man might stand in it upright."‡ "It was guaged" says Browne Willis in his *Survey* "by Mr. Pontjoy, and will hold 424 gallons of ale measure . . . "its compass is seven yards and a half and two inches."§

The clock struck upon the "Great Tom" of 1610. It was tolled as the Passing-bell for those dying in the Minster Close, and for people of high position, after which thrice three strokes were given for a male and thrice two for a female. It was also tolled on Whitsunday, and when the Judges arrived at the Assizes, but it being found that the swinging of so heavy a weight shook the tower more then was considered safe, it was decided, in 1802, that it should not be tolled in future: a writer in the *Stamford Mercury* newspaper of the 6th of August

* *Worthies*, fo. Ed. Lincolnshire, p. 152.

† *Diary* (Bray's Ed. 1871), p. 238.

‡ Quoted by Saunders' *Hist. Linc.* I. 172.

§ *Survey of Cathedrals*, III. 33.

in that year says:—"Great Tom o' Lincoln is to be rung no more! The full swing of four tons and a half is found to injure the tower where he hangs. He has therefore been chained and rivetted down; so that instead of the full mouthful he has been used to send forth, he is enjoined in future merely to wag his tongue."*

Early in the present century the unsatisfactory state of the bells pressed itself upon the notice of the Dean and Chapter; and an impression being afloat that some steps would be taken to remedy the defects, induced James Harrison, Bellfounder, of Barton, to address a letter, dated the 15th of October, 1806, to the Dean and Chapter, containing a wordy exposition of his theories. Again, twelve years afterwards—on the 7th of November, 1818—the same man wrote:—

> "A report having lately reached me purporting that all the Minster Bells, except Great Tom, are to be recast to form a grand Peal of Ten, and that it is also wished that Great Tom should be rung & consequently that it is become very desirable to have its Tower firmly secured for this purpose," &c., &c.

He proceeded to recommend that the new ring of ten bells should be hung in the Broad Tower with Great Tom in the centre! and propounded his theory for believing that such an arrangement would in no wise interfere with the stability of the structure. An estimate "of the expense of recasting the two old peals of bells, namely, the peal of eight and the peal of six now in the Cathedral into a very capital and grand peal of ten harmonious bells," accompanied the letter. He promised that the new bells should "be formed with all the advantages of modern improvements and discoveries, viz., the metal to be arranged according to mathematical calculation for affording the loudest, gravest, and most lasting sounds that can be produced with given weights, and, in consequence, the most lively and free tones," and that the new bells should be turned "into perfect tune." Without giving the details,

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* There is a tradition that on the occasion of some victory "Great Tom" was rung by twenty-four women; the Lady-bells and S. Hugh's bells being rung at the same time.

which are long, it may be mentioned that he judged the weight of the old metal to be about seven tons, which he valued at £168. a ton, and so worth £1176. The same metal recast into new bells he estimated at £224. a ton, and so would cost £1568.—the difference between which two sums—£392.—would be the actual cost in money of the transformation of the two rings into one: to that sum he added £257. 10s.—for new frames, &c., &c.—making the total of his estimate £649. 10s. The weight of his proposed tenor was to be 32 cwt., its diameter about 5¼ ft., its key C sharp. The proposed ring, he asserted, would "exceed in grandeur and flow of sound any other peal in England whatever, though there are some of much greater weight. It would also," he added, "exceed in the sweetness of the tones, and it would be heard to a greater distance."

The Dean and Chapter, fortunately, did not accept his proposals.

In 1827, to add to the perplexities of the Cathedral authorities, "Great Tom" became perceptibly cracked near the rim in consequence of some mismanagement in the striking of the clock-hammer.

On the 31st of December in that year Mr. Edward Betham, the Surveyor to the Dean and Chapter, addressed a series of queries to Mr. John Briant of Hertford, who for many years had been a well-known bellfounder, but who, at that time being nearly eighty years of age, had declined that part of his business, as to the cause of the accident, and the best course to pursue. The queries (to put them very briefly) were:—

1. Could such an accident occur by the accidental or intentional pressure by any person upon the bell at the time the clock was striking?
2. Will any further injury be occasioned by allowing the clock to strike and the bell to be tolled with the clapper as heretofore?
3. Whether any temporary improvement in the tone would be obtained by cutting a piece out of the bell as far, or a little beyond, the present crack?

4. Relates to the proposed striking of the clock upon the tenor of S. Hugh's ring.
5. What would be the probable expense of recasting "this stupendous bell" . . . . and would it be more readily done at Lincoln or in London?

To these queries Mr. Briant replied, on the 2nd of January, 1828, that

1. The fracture was not occasioned by either of the causes named. [In a later paragraph he gives his opinion that the fracture which apparently extended seven inches upwards from the extremity of the skirt really extended much further than was perceptible to the eye, and had been occasioned in the first instance "by the Line of the momentum of the Clock Hammer being in too perpendicular a direction with the Bell and striking on a thinner part than the extreme thickness of the sound-bow, instead of having its impetus inclined to a more horizontal position." "Most likely," he adds, "that part of the fracture above the sound-bow was done before it extended to the skirt, *at which time* [*i. e.* fifty years previously, when the hammer struck on the part of the bell now cracked, but was then removed to the opposite side of the bell] the tone was very little injured."
2. By continuing the striking of the clock, or the tolling with the clapper, the fracture would probably extend.
3. The cutting out of a piece would not produce any sensible improvement in the tone, would be attended with great trouble and expense, and would be eventually abortive.
4. He offered same advice.
5. He promised to write again under this head which he did in a long letter, dated the 8th of January, 1828, strongly recommending that, in case the bell was recast, the work should be done in London, chiefly because there, and there only, was a furnace of sufficient capacity for so large a work, and suggested that Mr. Mears should examine the position of the bell in order to arrive at an idea of the cost. He wrote of the old bell (that of 1610)

as "the most superior Great Bell in England," and he estimated the cost of recasting at from £200. to £240., which in a subsequent letter he corrected to £165.

This new disaster to the Cathedral bells caused several letters of advice and suggestion, and proposals from bellfounders, to be sent to the Dean and Chapter. Amongst the Cathedral Muniments are preserved letters written at this time (January, 1828) by Sir J. H. Thorold and the Rectors of Downham and Croyland; Charles Vellam, Robert Hepworth, Robert Boston, George Sanderson, and John Potts, all made their suggestions as to the repair of the bell. William Dobson, bellfounder, of Downham, Norfolk, sent proposals (7th January, 1828) for effecting the same object, enclosing a number of testimonials, amongst which is a letter from Sir Robert Smirke, R.A., dated 21st September, 1825, and a curious one on bells and bellringing from Dr. Samuel Parr, dated the 22nd January 1816.* James Harrison (not daunted by the failure of his former proposals), wrote (2nd February, 1828) "The misfortune announced in the newspapers of the renouned Tom of Lincoln having got broken occasioned the present address. . . . . I shall be extremely happy to receive . . . . ." He enclosed a new estimate amounting to £231. Thomas Mears, of London, sent a brief estimate (4th February, 1828) for recasting the two rings into a new ring of ten musical bells for £296. On the 4th of March, 1828, the original crack was extended, and two additional ones made, by striking the bell with the clapper: soon after which William Dobson wrote again, and in his letter (dated 16th August, 1828) engaged to remove the great bell and replace it with a new one for £200.—with certain stipulations as to the overplus or deficiency of metal. In the following year (3rd July, 1829) Dobson had an interview with the Dean, when the idea of augmenting the weight of "Great Tom" and placing him in the central tower was discussed, but the Dean felt a difficulty in deciding upon the extent of such augmentation. This led Dobson

* That letter I have printed in *The Antiquary*, Vol. III p. 157.

shortly afterwards—27th July, 1829—to address a letter to the Dean which is sufficiently amusing to quote :—

Downham, Norfolk, July 27th 1829.

To the Very Revd Geo: Gordon D.D.
Dean of Lincoln.

Revd. Sir,

During the conversation I had the honor of holding with you on the 3rd Inst you seem'd to approve of the idea of augmenting the weight of the Great Bell but felt a difficulty in deciding upon the extent of such augmentation. As you entertain the design of placing the new Bell in the Centre Tower, I beg leave to suggest that the Bell ought to be made to correspond with the splendor and magnificence of the Building (the Tower), which unquestionably is the finest in the whole kingdom. Altho' Humility is a great virtue, there is a possibility of carrying it too far and I think that the most fastidious would acquit you of presumption were you to introduce a Bell weighing something more than the mighty Tom of Oxford, which is computed to weigh 7 tons, 15 cwt.; a spirit of emulation is laudable and praiseworthy, and indeed to such a spirit is the grand and stately Cathedral of Lincoln indebted for its vast magnificence. I have often thought that the dignity of this great Empire was compromised by those who had the management of St. Paul's; had *my* spirit presided, not even the Kremlin itself should have outdone me. The commanding situation of the Building is admirably calculated for the display of such a Bell, it would be heard many miles around (if St. Paul's could be heard at Windsor, may we not presume that Tom's notes will reach the Turrets of Belvoir?) and the clock which was evidently too powerful for the old Bell, will, I am confident, be sufficiently so for a new one on the scale I have suggested.

The weight of the present Bell is computed by some to be 4 tons, 8 cwts., and by others 4 tons, 14 cwts., we may adopt the intermediate weight, and call it 4 tons, 11 cwts., and the Ladies' Bells

(*sic*) may probably weigh 2 tons, 16 cwts., together about 7 tons, 7 cwts. So that about 10 cwts. of metal in addition will produce a Bell heavier than any other in the Kingdom. Herewith you have my offer for carrying the plan into effect, which I have made more with a view to the acquirement of Fame than fortune, and if I be honored with the execution of the business, no expense on my part shall be spared to render it perfect and compleat. In the event of your having the larger Bell, a new Frame and Hangings will be required which, under my superintendence and direction, might be furnished by your own Carpenter, I therefore have not included them in my proposals. Begging that when the question is brought forward, my humble pretensions may meet your favourable consideration

I have the honour to remain,
Revd Sir Your very respectful,
and obedient Servant,
Will. Dobson.

Dobson's proposal was to take down "Great Tom" and the six Lady Bells, convey them to his foundry, and recast them with about 10 cwt. of new metal into one bell, and hang it for £350.

Early in the following year—1830—the Precentor broached another idea, which was that two quarter-bells should be provided, and that, in order to save the expense of new metal for them, "four small Bells from the peal of eight [in S. Hugh's steeple], which have been a long time useless," should be sacrificed for the purpose. In order to meet this proposal (which would have left the Cathedral with a ring of four bells only in addition to the suggested new "Great Tom") Dobson sent in another, and corrected, estimate, dated the 10th of March, 1830, undertaking to cast the then Great Tom and the six Lady-bells into one great bell, and to cast "four of the small bells of the Peal of eight into two new Bells for the Quarter Chimes," for the sum of £385.

One reads the Dean's reply to this proposal with a sigh of relief: he put the whole matter off indefinitely.

Notwithstanding Mr. Briant's warning that the cutting out of a piece of the bell "would not produce any sensible improvement in the tone, would be attended with great trouble and expense, and would be eventually abortive," the Dean and Chapter in the following year resolved to try that method of preventing the extension of the cracks, and of improving the tone. In June, 1831, Mr. Thomas Bishop of Birmingham (who had previously been in correspondence with the Dean) was employed to attempt a remedy of the defect, in doing which, during the driving of a wedge to trace the flaw, a large piece of the rim broke off, soon after which a further portion was taken off by a white-smith of Lincoln named Poole. Mr. Edward Betham, the Surveyor, in a letter to Lord John Thynne, dated the 18th of June, 1831, enclosed the following :—

An Account of the Metal taken off the Rim or Skirt of Tom o' Lincoln in June 1831, during the attempt by Mr Thos Bishop of Birmingham, and afterwards by Poole of Lincoln, to remedy the defect occasioned by the cracks, the first of which was discovered in Decemr 1827, which was extended and two additional ones made, by striking the Bell with the Clapper, 4th March, 1828.

Marks upon the respective pieces.		cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
}ABRICE ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ RI}		,,	2	13¾
}CHARD}		,,	1	7½
}S ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴}		,,	1	6½
}CLA}	This the original crack.	,,	1	1¾
}TON ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ARCHIDIAC}		,,	3	5
}CONVS}		,,	1	6
}LINCOLN}		,,	2	3¾
}N. ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴}		,,	1	7½
Total taken off under Mr Bishop's direction		3	1	23½

}∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ LAVRENTIVS}	3	,,	6
{STANTON ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ DECANVS ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ROGERVS ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ PARKER}	2	1	8
{PRE}.....	,,	,,	3
∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴ ∴	,,	2	8
These were separated from the Bell in one piece and in attempting to break it into 2 parts, for convenience of removal, it became separated into 4 pieces as above	5	3	25
Without any Inscription	,,	,,	6½
Total taken off by Pool after Bishop left	6	,,	3½
Taken off under Mr Bishop's directions, 8 pieces, weighing	3	1	23½
..... ,, ... by Pool ..... 5 pieces.....	6	,,	3½
Total taken off..... 13 pieces.....	9	1	27

All of which are deposited in the closet upon the Staircase which leads out of the upper *North* Transept.

June 17th 1831. (Signed) Edwd Betham.

It being generally believed that when "Great Tom" of 1610 was cast in the Minster-Yard, many of the inhabitants of Lincoln threw in silver tankards, spoons and other valuables, it is of interest to place on record the following :—

Birmingham, Dec. 8, 1831.

Revd Sir

Agreeable to my promise I have at last succeeded in getting a piece of the great Bell assay'd and feel a pleasure of informing you the component parts, it consists of 3 metals only, vizt. Copper, Tin and Silver.

The original quantity of each was to

1000 lbs. weight	700 lbs.	Copper.
	299 ,,	Tin.
	1 ,,	Silver.
	1000	

The trial of the piece gives the following answer to 1000 lbs.

700 lbs.	Copper.
280 lbs.	Tin.
1 lb.	Silver.
19 lbs.	loss, *Dirt.*
1000	

I Remain Rev[d] Sir,
Your obliged & obt. Servant,
Tho[s]. Bishop.

This shows a very small percentage indeed of silver.

The great Bell after this remained dumb, with the exception of the clock striking upon it, until the year 1834, when the question of re-casting was again discussed. On the 1st of January in that year the following important Order was entered in the *Order Book on Fabric Account*:—

> 1834. Jan. 1st Ordered, with the consent and approbation of the Precentor & Chancellor that M[r] Thomas Mears, Bell Founder of Whitechapel, London, be employed to recast the Great Bell &c &c and directed to send a Plan, Estimate, and Contract for the same.
>
> T. Manners Sutton.

The result of this order was the receipt of the following estimate from Mr. Thomas Mears :—

March 27th 1834.

Estimate by Mr Thos Mears for recasting Great Tom o' Lincoln and the six Lady Bells into one large and two Quarter Bells:

	Cwt.
Weight of the present Tom supposed to be about	88
,, Six Lady Bells ,, ...	53
	141
Old Copper Balls, Weather Cock and Vane formerly upon the two leaden spires at the west end about	3
	144

	Cwt.	Cwt.
A new Tom		100
First Quarter Bell	14	44
Second Quarter Bell	30	
New Bells		144

Recasting the old metal at 37*s.* 4*d.* Per Cwt.	£268 . 16 . 0	
Carriage to & from London	40 . 0 . 0	
Taking down & rehanging the new Bells with two new Stocks for the Quarter Bells	50	
Mr. Mears	358 . 16 . 0	
Contingent expenses in alterations that may be required to strengthen the Timbers under the Bells, and making the opening at the trap door a little larger to admit the large Bell and restoring the same &c.	51 . 4	
	410 . 0 . 0	

Should there be more metal in the old Bells &c. than is above mentioned the addition will go into the new Bells.

If the carriage and getting down & up the present and the new Bells should cost less than is above stated, such reduction will be taken off.

To the Rev[d] The Sub-dean
&c. &c.
Lincoln.

Soon after the receipt of this estimate an Order appears in *The Order Book on Fabric Account* (dated the 8th April 1834) signed by the Dean and Sub-dean "that the present state and condition of the Broad Tower should be ascertained from the best authority, that in the event of an order being given for the recasting of the great bell it might be known how far it would be advisable that it should be hung there." Mr. Blore was thought the fittest person, but his fees being considered high, Mr. James Savage, of Essex Street, Strand, was desired to examine the Tower, and send in a Report. In that Report (dated the 16th of May, 1834) Mr. Savage said (to quote the first two paragraphs only):—

In pursuance of your directions I have carefully examined the Broad Tower of your Cathedral with a view to ascertain its sufficiency to receive the large bell for occasional tolling and for the clock hammer to strike upon, together with two smaller bells for the Quarters to strike upon.

The weight of the large bell being Five Tons or a little more, and of the small bells together about two Tons, I have no hesitation in stating my entire conviction that the Tower is of ample strength for the purpose.

Being satisfied with this Report, the Dean and Chapter resolved at once to employ Mr. Thomas Mears to destroy the six Lady Bells, and from their metal and that of the cracked "Great Tom" to produce a new large bell and two Quarter-Bells. The following was Mr. Mears' Agreement:—

Memorandum June 6th 1834. The undersigned Thomas Mears of Whitechapel in the County of Middlesex, Bell Founder, hath this day agreed with the Right Worshipfull the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Lincoln, as follows, that is to say,

First. To break into pieces in the chamber where it now hangs the large Bell called "Great Tom o' Lincoln," so that the same may be safely and carefully conveyed through such openings as there now are in the several Floors through which the pieces will have to pass down to the Floor immediately over the stone groined cieling, and from that Floor to be conveyed through the arched aperture in the south wall of the Tower to the Floor of the church.

Second. To take down the six Bells now in the Rood or Broad Tower of the Cathedral, and if any of them are too large to pass through the present openings in the several Floors, then to break such, in the Bell Chamber, into parts sufficiently small to pass through such openings down to the floor of the church, and, the Dean and Chapter finding proper Planks to preserve the said Floor from injury, to remove the metal to the outside of the church.

Third. To convey the said Metal, as also the part now in store, together with the old Copper, also in store, to the Bell Foundry at Whitechapel.

Fourth. To recast the above Metals, together with such additional new Metal as may be required, into three musical and proper tuneable Bells of the following dimensions and weights, at the least, that is to say,

One large Bell to be called "Great Tom o' Lincoln," of the diameter of six Feet and ten Inches at the mouth or skirt, measured from outer edge to outer edge; and of the thickness of five Inches and five eights of an Inch, or thereabouts, at the sound-bow, and in all other parts of such thickness, lengths and breadths, as the above mentioned

diameter and thickness require a full toned and properly proportioned Bell, of such size, to be: with proper Cannons and Crown Staple. The said Bell to be in the key of A, or as near thereto as a casting of such magnitude and weight can be expected to arrive at, such weight to be not less than five tons, and one quarter of a Ton.

One Quarter Bell to weigh not less than fourteen hundred weight, and of such dimensions as shall make its tone to be an octave above the large Bell.

One other Quarter Bell to weigh not less than thirty one hundred weight, and of such proportions as will produce a tone that will be in accordance with the large bell and the first Quarter Bell, so that the three Bells sound in the proportions of one, four, eight.

Fifth. To recast the old Metals before mentioned at the price or sum of thirty seven shillings and four pence per hundred weight; and to be allowed for such new metal as may be required after the rate of six Pounds ten shillings and eight pence per hundred weight.

Sixth. To convey the said Bells to Lincoln and into the Bell chamber of the said Broad Tower, and hang the same with proper Stocks and Gudgeons in the Bell Frame now there; any alteration or strengthening of the said Frame, or of the Floor upon which it rests, as also the securing of the Timbers of the Roof from which the Blocks and Tackles (to be provided by the said Thomas Mears) by which the Bells are to be drawn up from the Floor of the church, will be suspended; and the enlarging, if necessary, of the openings through which the said Bells will have to pass, to be done and executed at the expence of the said Dean and Chapter—The alteration, if any, required to the present clapper of the Great Bell to make it suitable to the new large Bell to be done by the said Thomas Mears—To attach a quarter wheel or some other suitable apparatus to the large

Bell as will admit of its being tolled (not rung) when required.

The Dean and Chapter to provide such Planks as may be necessary to carry the wheels of the Truck or Carriage, upon which the large Bell will be conveyed from London, along the Floor of the church to prevent injury to the same.

The said Thomas Mears to be allowed the sum of Ninety pounds for taking down the old Bells, conveying the same to the Foundry at Whitechapel, taking the new Bells to Lincoln, and hanging the same in the appointed place in the said Rood Tower, over and above the charge for recasting the old metals, and for the additional metal. But if the expenses attendant on such removal of the old metal and the new Bells should be less than the said sum of Ninety Pounds, then for such less sum as the same shall amount to.

To put on the Bells such Inscriptions as the Dean and Chapter may hereafter direct.

I do hereby agree to the several conditions of the preceding Memorandum of Agreement, and engage to have the new Bells at Lincoln on or before the 25th day of March next, and to proceed with the hanging thereof without delay if permitted to do so by the said Dean and Chapter, and also to insure the said Bells from any defects for one year from the date of the hanging of the same, if they be not improperly used, or wilfully injured by any one during that period. Witness my hand, the said Sixth day of June, One thousand eight hundred and thirty four.

Thos Mears.

Witness

Edwd Betham.

The demolition of the "Great Tom" of 1610 took place after Morning Service on Wednesday, the 18th of June, 1834, the clapper being employed as a battering-ram, until by repeated blows the mass was broken into seven or eight pieces.

The actual casting of the present "Great Tom" took place on the 15th of November, 1834, as the following interesting memorandum, preserved amongst the Cathedral Muniments, fully details:—

Whitechapel Bellfoundry
London. Saturday, November 15th 1834.

The recasting of Great Tom o' Lincoln was effected this day: at 32 minutes after 10 o'clock A.M. the opening of the aperture in the Furnace through which the metal was to pass into the mould was commenced, at 36 and ½ minutes the first appearance of the metal was exhibited and commenced running into the two channels which conveyed it to the mould, and in 16 minutes all that was required for the Bell had run out, and in 4 minutes more the whole of the surplus metal had run out into the reservoirs prepared for it. The metal was considered by all present who understood it, as in the most perfect state of fusion possible, and there is every prospect of the Bell proving to be a good one. N.B. The date upon the Bell is March 25, 1835, by which day it is intended that it shall be in the Cathedral at Lincoln.

Joseph Swan, Surgeon 6 Tavistock Square.
Thomas Winn, Alderman of Lincoln.
James Schooling, 13 Artillery Place, Finsbury.
Edwd Betham, Surveyor to the Dean & Chapter of Lincoln.
Chas Hildyard.
Chas Jepson Betham, of Xst's Hospital, London.

"Great Tom," although not ready for hanging quite so soon as agreed, left the Whitechapel Foundry for Lincoln on Monday, the 6th of April, 1835. It was placed on a timber carriage, with three pieces of timber laid from the front to the rear bolster, and securely bolted down; the bell was closely covered, and attracted little or no notice on the way. The carriage was drawn by eight horses, and attended by a proper staff of men, the survivor of whom is Mr. John Mears, a son of the founder, who is now living at Canterbury, and who has favoured

me with these particulars of the journey. They stopped—"night or day as it fell out," the journey being divided into stages, and the foreman "having an eye to stable-room"—at the following places, namely, Hoddesdon, Buntingford, Caxton, Stilton, Bourn, and Sleaford, arriving at Lincoln on the following Monday, the 13th of April, when the bell was received by a procession consisting of the military, public schools, companies of ringers, and bands of music, and having been conducted to the Cathedral, was drawn by manual strength to the centre of the building, whence it was raised a few days afterwards to its new position in the Broad Tower.

The two new Quarter-bells did not travel to Lincoln with "Great Tom," but were sent—it is believed—by sea to Boston, and carried from thence to Lincoln. They were simply inscribed with the name of the founder:—

Thomas Mears of London, founder, 1835,

and were respectively 40 and 51 inches in diameter. They were hung in the same tower (the Central one) as "Great Tom." The hours were struck on Great Tom by a hammer, the head of which weighed 140 lbs., and although the new Quarter-bells had clappers, and were hung for ringing, they were only used for sounding the quarters—1-2 at a quarter past the hour, the same repeated at half-past, and so on.

These bells in the Central Tower remained as they were placed in 1835, until the year 1880, when the number of Quarter-bells was increased by the addition of the present 1st and 2nd, presented, as their inscriptions show, the one by Mr. Nathaniel Clayton, the senior member of the well-known firm of Messrs. Clayton and Shuttleworth, of the Stamp-end Works, and High Sheriff (1881) of the county; the other by Mrs. Seely, the wife of Mr. Charles Seely, Member of Parliament for the City of Lincoln, of which he is a native. When these new bells were hung, on Tuesday, the 17th of August, 1880, with the intention of using them, and the two old bells, for the well-known "Cambridge Quarters," it was found that the latter were not in sufficiently correct tune for the purpose, so they were removed and recast, as their present

inscriptions show, at the cost of Mr. Nathaniel Clayton, and of his son-in-law, Mr. Alfred Shuttleworth. All being completed (including a new clock) they were formally opened at mid-day on Saturday, the 11th of December, 1880. After Matins had been sung in the choir, the Dean, accompanied by the Residentiary Canons, the Priest-Vicars, and other officials of the Cathedral, the donors of the new bells, and many friends, ascended to the clock chamber, which occupies the lower story of the Broad Tower. After the Dean had recited some prayers, and delivered an appropriate address, the clock and chimes were set going by Mr. Clayton, and for the first time, at a quarter-past twelve, the tones of the new bells floated melodiously over the city, and were eagerly caught by many a listening ear below.

The new clock of the Cathedral has a very respectable ancestry as to antiquity. In 1324 Thomas of Louth, Treasurer of Lincoln, gave to the church a *horologium* or clock, which was unanimously accepted by the Chapter.* The clock now superseded was made by Thwaites in 1775, and subsequently improved by Vulliamy, the best maker of large clocks at that time. The new clock has been constructed by Messrs. Potts and Sons, of Leeds, whose reputation as clockmakers is very high. The work was carefully superintended by Sir Edmund Beckett, Bart., the highest living authority on all horological matters. The total weight of the new clock is about four tons. The striking apparatus, under the more powerful hammer of which "Great Tom" gives out a far grander tone than he has ever done before, needs daily winding, which occupies about twenty minutes; the clock itself is wound up weekly, the process occupying about the same time. The clock bears the following inscription:—

> Quod bene vortat Deus Optimus Maximus, Consiliis Edmundi Beckett Baronetti LL.D., Opera Gul. Potts et Filiorum, civium Leodiensium, sumptibus Decani et Capituli, novum in turri positum est Horologium A.D. MDCCCLXXX.

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* Sir Charles Anderson's *Guide*, p. 94.

Although the Broad Tower was, as already shown, surveyed before hanging the great bell and the two Quarter-bells there in 1835, and was declared perfectly safe, it was soon feared that the ordinary tolling of so large a bell shook the tower sufficiently to do mischief to the fabric, so now, and for some time past, the bell has not even been chimed, but the clapper is swung by a man, and so caused to strike the side of the bell.

On the Great Festivals, and at the Assizes, when the Judge attends Divine Service, the Sermon-bell is sounded on "Great Tom."

On the death, and on the day of the funeral of any member of the Royal Family, the Bishop, Dean, or other member of the Cathedral Chapter, also for a citizen, when leave is obtained from the Dean and Canon in residence (fee two guineas), the bell is sounded by striking with a muffled hammer. This Passing-bell is sounded ordinarily for fifteen minutes with quarter-minute strokes, but for Royalty and the higher dignitaries—viz., Bishop, Dean, and Canons Residentiaries—it is sounded for half-an-hour, with half-minute strokes. At the close of the knell thrice three tolls are given for a male, thrice two for a female.

On Good Friday "Great Tom" is sounded a quarter of an hour for the Morning Service, and no other bells are used.

S. Hugh's Steeple [South-west Tower].

1. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FOUNDER 1834. TREBLE OF 8. LINCOLN CATHEDRAL HUGH STEEPLE 1834. GEO. GORDON DD. DEAN. RI. PRETYMAN A.M. PRECENTOR. GEO. THO^S PRETYMAN B.C.L. CHANCELLOR. T. MANNERS SUTTON A.M. SUBDEAN.
(Diam. 32 in.)

2—5. R. WILLIS DEAN. IO. KNIGHTON SUBDEAN. IO. MANDEVILLE CHANCELLOR. IO. INETT* CHANTOR 1702.
(Diams. 32, 33, 34½, 37½ in.)

* The 4th has *Ivett* for Inett.

6. HENRY PENN FVSORE 1717.
(Diam. 40 in.)

7. [+ 173] Sum Rosa Pulsata Mondi Maria Vocata 1606.
(Diam. 43 in.)

8. [+ 106] GOD · SAVE · THE · CHVRCH · OVR · QVEENE · AND · REALME · AND · SEND · VS · PEACE · IN · CHRIST · AMEN · 1593 [▽ 108.]
[○ 105.]
(Diam. 46½ in.)

For Stamps see page 140 and *Plate XV.*

When and how the ring in this tower was formed cannot now be stated. No ancient Inventory of the Bells of Lincoln Cathedral has yet been discovered, and the Books of the *Chapter Acts* give no information at the dates when the several bells were cast. I incline to think that an increase in number took place in 1702, when four out of the present eight were cast. The then treble was probably of the same date. That bell being broken late in the last century, and the whole ring requiring rehanging, the bells here had not in consequence been rung for forty years, when, in 1834, the treble having been recast, and the whole ring rehung with new wheels, &c., a peal was rung on the eight bells on the Feast of the Annunciation (25th of March) in that year. It was then found that the tenor bell (which had been shortened at its mouth) was a little below F in its key, and weighed only 17 cwt. 0 qr. 7 lbs., which was 2 cwt. 0 qr. 25 lbs. less than the tenor of S. Peter-at-Arches, although S. Hugh's bells altogether exceeded those of S. Peter-at-Arches in weight by 6 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lbs., the former weighing 87 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lbs., and the latter 80 cwt. 3 qrs. 23 lbs.*

Of the two old bells the seventh has an inscription in fine large ribbon gothic letters, with ornamental capitals (of which specimen drawings are given as figs. 185 and 186 on *Plate XXVII.*), preceded by an elegantly formed initial cross of four fleurs-de-lys.

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* From a memorandum in the handwriting of the late Mr. Betham, long Surveyor to the Dean and Chapter.

The tenor bell has the cross and first word, and each succeeding word, on a single stamp. It is of the same date, and bears the same founders' medallion stamp (fig. 105), as the four oldest of the Lady-bells, which formerly hung in the Central Tower.

Formerly (before the destruction of the Lady-bells) the 5th and 8th of this ring were the Quarters to old "Great Tom," and were sounded by wires from one tower to the other.

The Uses of S. Hugh's bells are as follows:—

On Sunday the 5th bell is rung for an Early Celebration of the Holy Communion at 8.30 a.m.

For Morning Prayer the whole are rung for fifteen minutes, then, after a short pause, they are rung again for seven minutes, followed by the ringing of the tenor alone—excepting on the Great Festivals, when Great Tom is sounded—as a Sermon-bell.

In the afternoon the 5th bell is rung for five minutes before three o'clock to announce a Sermon in the nave; after the conclusion of which sermon the whole of the bells are chimed, from 3.45 till 4 o'clock, for the choral Evensong in the choir, at which service there is no sermon.

Daily the 5th bell is rung at 6 a.m. from Lady Day to Michaelmas, and at 7 a.m. from Michaelmas to Lady Day for "Chapel Prayers," which, however, the Priest-Vicars do not now say. The day of the month is tolled at the end of the ringing. At 9 a.m. the 5th and 6th bells are rung; at 9.30, and again at 9.45, the same bells are again rung (excepting on Saints' Days, when the 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th are rung) for Matins. The same ringing occurs again in the afternoon at 3 o'clock and at 3.30 and 3.45 for Evensong. These ringings at 9 a.m. and at 3 p.m. are probably echoes of the Canonical Hours.

The 5th bell is rung daily at 8 o'clock in the evening, after which the day of the month is tolled.

On the evening of the funeral of the Bishop, Dean, or any Residentiary Canon, a dumb peal is rung.

Peals are rung on Christmas and Easter Eves and Days; on the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin (the Cathedral being dedicated

to her); on the Queen's Accession, Birthday, and Coronation; in honour of the Bishop during the weeks of Ordination; and quarterly to welcome each of the Residentiary Canons at the commencement of their respective residences.

Formerly the bells were rung on the anniversaries of the Restoration and the Discovery of the Gunpowder Plot.

The Cathedral Bell-Ringers.

A Society of Ringers was formed here on the 18th of October, 1612, with Robert Sandie, the Scrivener, as its first Master, "for ever hereafter for the Ringing of S. Hugh's Bells and Our Lady's Bells," for the encouragement of which Dean Parker and the Chapter granted, on the 20th of September, 1614, a yearly annuity of forty shillings.

"The Ordinances of the Society of Ringers of S. Hugh of Lincoln," dated 18th October, 1612, are preserved amongst the Muniments of the Cathedral. They are illuminated on five folios of vellum, and are accompanied, at the end, by a schedule of the ringers' names, illuminated in a similar manner. It is unnecessary to give a copy of the Ordinances in full but an abstract may be acceptable to those now interested in Ringers' Guilds and similar Societies for the encouragement of Ringing and of Ringers:—

1. Forfeit for non-attendance 12*d.*
2. Sunday after S. Luke the Feast of the Society: married men to bring wives and pay 16*d.*: unmarried men 8d.: forfeit for non-attendance 2*s.* half for master, half for company.
3. Election of Master for year to be made after Dinner and he to have custody of common stock and documents, and to appoint two of the company as Wardens to summon the members, who are to receive a yearly fee of 10*s.* to be paid quarterly out of common stock for their expenses in running up and down, together with free commons on the feast-day. Past Masters or Associates not Eligible as Wardens.
4. Forfeit for disobedience to Master 2*s.* 6*d.*

5. No one (not being a Past Master) to refuse office of Warden under penalty of 13*s.* 4*d.*; nor be liable to reappointment against his will.
6. The Wardens to sweep and clean the Chapel or hall of the Company, the Steeple of the bells, and the Steeple wherein the Company used to ring: also to oil the bells &c., at the order of the Master: to lay up the chime hammers before they ring and lay them down after, and forfeit 6*d.* on every default: same forfeit for neglecting to summon the members.
7. All of the Company to behave modestly and well at all times, and to accept the place assigned by the Master or his deputy under penalty of 2*s.* 6*d.*: not to revile one another under penalty of 2s. 6*d.*, 3*s.* 6*d.*, and 6*s.* 8*d.*, for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd offence, the last followed by total dismissal.
8. The Master on the Sunday after Feast-day, in the ringers' chapel or hall, between 1 and 3 in the afternoon to give his account for year of office.
9. The Master upon account-day after his election to choose 12 associates out of the company to assist him in any difficulty that may arise.
10. The ringer appointed by the Master to each bell, not to refuse under penalty of 6*d.* for each offence, not to give his "string or strings" to a stranger during a peal without the leave of the Master, nor disorder a peal by talking or other noise under penalty of 12*d.*: connivance in a stranger's ringing without consent of Master fined 4*d.*: ringing with others to the prejudice of this company fined 20*s.* for every offence.
11. Master to choose a Past-Master to act as his deputy when away or out of town.
12. No deputy to be sent by any member without permission under penalty of 4*d.*
13. The Company to attend the funeral of any member and to ring one or two peals at least in his honour under penalty of 12*d.*, and if the member be too poor to leave anything, the

Master to disburse 2*s.* 6*d.* out of the Common Stock, and at the next meeting of the Company shall fill up vacancy.

14. That the 40*s.* fee allowed by the Dean and Chapter be appropriated always by the Master to the forming of a fund not to be touched except on death of a member, and then in rateable proportion to go to widow and children: and if a member have no wife or child his portion may be bequeathed by Will, and if not bequeathed his portion to be appropriated by Master with consent of his 12 Associates for the good of the Company. The payment of the Clark's fee and the Wardens' fees and oil and lights when not otherwise met, may be paid out of this fund.

15. Assistance to sick members to be given by Master and Associates.

16. If any member detain from the Master sums received for ringing, he is to be fined 20*s.* for each offence.

17. Secrets of the Company not to be betrayed under fine of 12*d.*

18. Master to choose 3 members, in addition to the Wardens, to help him to "take up" the clappers, these three to be taken in succession from all the company. Any refusing to be fined 12*d.*

19. Any one taking a stranger, without permission of Master, into steeple to forfeit 4*d.* also doorkeeper 4*d.*

20. Every member keeping the Company waiting in the steeple for a quarter of an hour after time summoned to forfeit 12*d.* (the great bell in St Hugh's steeple being tolled before the watch have "strooken the saide quarter") except by permission of Master.

21. The "Musitions" who attend on Feast Day to have 2*s.* 6*d.* and their dinners to be paid from the common stock.

22. The Master may make loans to members to the extent of half the common stock, taking security for repayment to him six days before the Sunday next after Feast Day, when he has to render up his account.

23. The Master and some other principal person to examine the S. Hugh's bells before every peal is rung to be sure of their safety, under penalty of 2*s.* 6*d.* for each neglect.
24. Master to recover fines at law if necessary.
25. Law expenses allowed to Master.
26. Master not to make breach of present ordinances when so prosecuting a member of the Company.
27. Master to keep ordinances and pay his own fines on his Account-day.
28. Master not to commence a suit without consent of majority of the twelve associates.
29. Recitation of members' names, and their formal assent to Ordinances.

The List of Members which accompanies the Ordinances contains many names which are also found in a black letter list on the wall of the chamber below S. Hugh's Tower. The heading of that list is:—

The names of the Companie of Ringers of our
Blessed Virgen Marie of Lincolne.

Beneath this the wall is marked to represent ashlar work, and, as it were, on each stone, is the name and date of a Master, as follows:—

Robert Sandie	Mr	1614
John Hellarye	,,	1615
Henrye Blackborne	,,	1616
Edward Whipp	,,	1617
at the King's coming to Lincolne		
Henrye Yorke	,,	1618
John Wattson	,,	1619
John Danye	,,	1620
Thomas Stanley	,,	1621
William Laminge	,,	1622
John Bincks	,,	1623
John Walker	,,	1624

Richard Haukesworth M^{r}		1625
Thomas Betney	,,	1626
John Towl . .	,,	1627
Thomas Bannister	,,	1628
Thomas Brewer	,,	1629
. . . Beryone [?]	,,	1630
Robert . . .	,,	1631
James Yorke	,,	1633
Thomas Stanley	,,	1634
William Burhean [?]	,,	1635

Then follow names in columns:—

Peeter Drake M^{r}	John Davill W'den	Xpoffer Archer
Thomas Nixx	William Crofts	Thomas Wingreen
Edward Whittington	Thomas Johnson	John Richardson
Henrye Harrinson	Henrye Mace	Originall Bartram
Amer Stafford	George Kettle	Anthony Varley
Richard Lincolne Clark	Robert Kilne	John Peachye
1634	Richard Wayd'son	Henrye Raw
Hastings Markby	William Frod'gwell	Robert Michel
William James	William Burham	John Harris
Luke Benson W'den	Robert Fowler	P . . . Haslewood
Edward Bust	John Lilly	Richard Yorke
John Benson	Humfrey Thornto'	Rowland Todd
Richard Jameson	John Downing	. . . . Ewerby
John Askew	Walter Holmes	

These last appear to be the names of the members of the Company in 1634.

There is also a circle ornamented with scroll work in yellow, green, and black, with the eight bells suspended on it properly graduated as to size. Within this are written in modern letters:—

The Names of the Company of Ringers of our Blessed Virgin Mary of Lincoln 1714 George Holms Organst & M^{r} of this Comp'

1714 Rob. Conston M^{r} 1711. Mr Geo. Hall M^{r} 1715 John Ryall M^{r} 1708. Mr Wm Mackinder M^{r} 1715 Danl Hunton, John Goodall, James Mitchil, Walter Dawson, Luke Trotter.

The title "M^{r}" being prefixed to some of the names is an indication that Ringing was practised at that time in Lincoln as a gentleman's recreation.

The following are also in this place surrounded by a plain border :—

The Names of the Company of ringers of our Blessed Virgin Mary of Lincoln 1722

John Read enter'd Master 1721
John Ryall Master 1717
John Hunton Master 1716
James Mitchil Master 1717
John Trawley Master 1718, 19 & 20
Luke Trotter } Mr Willm Mackinder
John Ward } Master 1725
Henry Singleton
Joseph Smith
Robert Hatfeild
Francis Bristow
John Dawson
John Brown
James Wise
Thomas Ball
Henry Miller
Samuel Merreweather
Edward Hunton
Joseph Fisher.*

The Members of this Society—like the present ringers—were not members of the Cathedral staff, but extraneous to it. There are, how-

* These Lists were copied by the Rev. J. T. Fowler, F.S.A., and are given here from his collections.

ever, and have long been, four, so-called, "Patent-ringers," namely the two Vergers, the Bellows-blower and the Porter. They now hold no Patents but are appointed by the Dean and Chapter. There was some little difference in the year 1606 as to with whom the nomination rested, the sub-dean claiming it *jure officii*, as he was keeping the greater residence at the time of the vacancy, and nominating a servant of his, named John Toms, whom he instantly required to be admitted. The matter was discussed and the Chapter agreed to accept his nomination.* Probably these four ringers were originally appointed for the four largest Lady-Bells whose ropes as we have seen (p. 518) came down to the piers of the great tower below, where the rings to which they were fixed still remain. These four "Patent-bell-ringers in company with every other member of the Cathedral body, down to the youngest chorister, assembled in the Chapter-House on the occasion of the third triennial Visitation of the Bishop of Lincoln, which commenced in the Cathedral on the 21st of October, 1879. Beginning with the inferior orders, and going through the entire body, each member was summoned to stand forward, and make any presentment that he might have to the Bishop, after which he was told to retire. This process was, I suppose, being "præconized" by the Chancellor of the Diocese.

LINCOLN.

S. Botolph. 5 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1, 3. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1846.
(Diams 26; 27½ in.)

2. R. PHELPS FECIT 1723.
(Diam. 26½ in.)

4. RICHARD PHELPS MADE ME 1723.
(Diam. 30⅜ in.)

---

* "*Admissio ad offic' pulsatoris,*" *Book of Acts*

5. R. PHELPS ME FECIT 1723 FUNDATO' NOSTRO' CANAMUS LAUDES DEUS PROPITIE' ILLIS.

(Diam. 33⅛ in.)

Priest's Bell :—

[▽ 108] IHS [□ 107] 1632.

(Diam. 16 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XV.*

The ancient church of S. Botolph was long in ruins.

There is a tradition that previous to 1723 there were no bells, and that the present Priest's Bell was lent to the church by Lord Monson of Burton Hall, where it had done duty as a Dinner Bell. The initials upon it may have favoured this idea. When the bells were put into good order in 1846 it was proposed to use this small bell for notices for Vestry meetings, but it was not used in any way ; indeed it had never been heard within living memory until the present Vicar had a clapper inserted, and now uses it as a Sacrament Bell.

A Book belonging to the Parish gives the weight and cost of a ring of 5 Bells cast for this church in 1723, by Richard Phelps, of London :—

Oct 13. 1723	The Peel of Bells weighed 23 cwt.			
	5 Bells	£128	16	0
	5 Pr. of Brasses & 5 Clappers ...	6	10	0
	Cart Hire & Wharfage		15	0
		£136	1	0

The same Book gives the following account of the Bells in 1845 :—

Feb : 3rd 1845

There is in this Tower a Peal of Five Bells and a Ting Tang of the dimensions hereunder written, viz. :—

	cwt. qr. lbs.	Diameter at the mouth. Ft.	In.	Thick at Sound Bow. In.
Treble Bell of the Peal (cracked)	3 . 0 . 7	2	1	2 bare
Second (cannons gone, hangs by the crown		2	$2\frac{1}{2}$	2
Third (cracked)	4 . 0 . 14	2	$3\frac{7}{8}$	$2\frac{1}{16}$
Fourth		2	$6\frac{3}{8}$	$2\frac{1}{8}$
Tenor		2	$9\frac{1}{8}$	$2\frac{1}{4}$
Ting Tang		1	4	1

This Peal was cast by Rich[d] Phelps of London 1723. The Treble Bell is hung in a raised frame upon & 3 ft. $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. higher than the general frame. The 3rd Bell is out of & set upon the Frame, its brasses are gone.

The Bells being at that time much out of repair, the parishioners obtained from Messrs. C. and G. Mears of London, two estimates—one for recasting the two cracked bells, rehanging the whole ring, and making it complete for ringing; and the other for casting an entirely new ring. This last estimate amounted to (less £100 to be allowed for the old bells) £98 10*s.*; the former, which was the one selected, amounted to £57 8*s.* 4*d.*

A further entry in the same Parish Book gives the cost, &c., of the two new bells—the present 1st and 3rd—obtained under that estimate:—

On the 26th Sept. 1846 Two New Bells were put up in the Tower of the Church of S[t] Botolph Lincoln, in place of the Treble Bell & 3rd Bell, which were cracked.

Mess[rs] Mears' Account.

1846		cwt.	qrs.	lbs.		£.	s.	d.
Sep. 26	A Bell	3	2	25				
	A do.	4	1	15				
		8	0	12	at £6 . 6 . 0 per cwt	51	1	6
					[Carried forward	51	1	6]

	£.	s.	d.
[Brought forward	51	1	6]
2 new clappers exchanged		18	0
4 new stocks & 3 new wheels [&c] rehanging Bells as per estimate	35	0	0
	86	19	6
Extra.			
Man's time repairing Frame & rehanging small Bell	2	8	0
	£89	7	6

Credit.	cwt.	qr.	lbs.				
By two old Bells.....	4	0	14				
	3	0	7				
	7	0	21				
Deduct iron staples & dirt			7				
	7	0	14	at £3 . 19 . 4 per cwt.			
				£28	5	3	
Overcharge in man's time				1	14	0	
						29	19	3
						£59	8	3*

LINCOLN.

S. Mark. 1 Bell.

1. [□ 107] [+ 128] [▽ 127] Sacra Trinitate Fiat Hec Campana Beata 1585 [□ 129 □ 132.]

(Diam. 35½ in.)

* For these extracts I am much indebted to the Rev. A. C. Ramsay, the Vicar of the parish.

For Stamps see *Plates XV.* and *XIX.*, and page 114.

This is a fine large bell very profusely ornamented. The inscription is in the same letters as several others of the same type (see p. 121) and between the words is a scroll work of renaissance character. In addition to the cross, rose, and shield, there is, all round the bell, under the inscription, an elegant border forming a kind of fringe similar to that found on bells of this date from the Nottingham foundry. Near to the date there are a fleur-de-lys and a winged beast (apparently a griffin) on a crest wreath.

This bell formerly hung at the church of S. Benedict in this city, to which church it is traditionally believed to have been given by the Barber Surgeons. When at S. Benedict's it used to be known by the name of "Old Kate," and was rung at 6 a.m. and at 7 p.m. all the year round. Old men say that (giving over work at seven in the evening) they used to listen for the welcome tones of "Old Kate." It was rung for many years by John Middlebrook, the parish clerk, who lived in a little lean-to tenement attached to the north side of the tower. On his death in December, 1804, his wife succeeded him as parish clerk (her name was Mary Middlebrook; she was buried, as the Parish Register shows, on the 7th November, 1822, being aged 72 years); and the story goes that the old lady consulted her convenience and her duty at once by bringing the bell-rope through the belfry door to her bedside, and pulled "Old Kate" whilst she lay in bed. Afterwards old men, then boys, used to sleep in the widow's tenement (she being past her work), and they did the same, pulling the bell between them, "kneeling on the bed," and then lying down to sleep again. For this the Corporation paid 6*s.* 8*d.* a year down to 1837.

There was a fancy that "Old Kate" took its name from the name of the aged sextoness; but, as just mentioned, the Parish Register shows her name was Mary. More probably a previous bell at S. Benedict's was dedicated (as many bells were) in honour of S. Katharine, and that when the bell was recast in 1585, and an inscription placed upon it more in accordance with the reformed faith, the old name clung to the new bell, and it continued to be known, as in times past, as "Old Kate."

LINCOLN.

S. Martin. 1 Bell.

1. WILLIAM BLEWS AND SONS FOUNDERS BIRMINGHAM 1874.

(Diam. 40¾ in.)

The present church is a new one consecrated in 1873. The previous church had one bell inscribed:—

[+ 165] 1665 W S ▽ [*see below.*]

It was of a type common in Lincolnshire, but it bore these arms (which I have been unable to identify) on a shield:—checky, a fess vair, impaling a chevron between three swans.

This seventeenth century bell being cracked it was sold, Sir Charles Anderson of Lea being the purchaser. The new bell was the gift of the Vicar—the Rev. John Foy—who generously offered the parish a ring of bells, which offer was—as it is now thought—foolishly declined. The old proverb is sometimes true:—

"He who will not when he may,
When he wills he shall have nay."

LINCOLN.

S. Mary-le-Wigford. 4 Bells.

1. I sweetly toling men do call to taste on meats that feeds the soble 1636 [□ 157.]

(Diam. 28 in.)

2. GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH 1636.

(Diam. 30 in.)

3. [+ 116] IESVS BE OVR SPEEDE 1616.

(Diam. 32 in.)

4. [+ 116] GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH
1616.

(Diam. 33½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXIII.* and page 107.

The Priest's bell formerly hanging here is now used at S. Faith's School. It is without inscription, about 12 inches in diameter, and had been lying in the tower unhung for some time before its removal.

LINCOLN.

S. Mary Magdalene. 1 Bell and a Priest's Bell.

1. [+ 52] SCA MRIA MAGDALENE ORA P NOBIS

(Diam. 18 in.; height 15 in.)

Priest's Bell:—

Blank.

(Diam. 10½ in.; height 8 in.)

For Stamp see *Plate VII.*

LINCOLN.

S. Michael. 1 Bell.

This modern church possesses one small bell, about 14 inches in diameter, which is difficult of access.

LINCOLN.

S. Nicolas with S. John, Newport. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 14 in.)

A modern bell; church erected in 1840.

LINCOLN.

S. Paul. 1 Bell.

1. HILTON & WALKER 1794.
(Diam. 18 in.)

The ancient church of S. Paul, which suffered much during the Civil Wars, was replaced by a very poor oblong room about the year 1787. It was, I presume, for that church that the above bell was provided; it now hangs in the much worthier building which has succeeded to the very poor one, to which reference has just been made.

LINCOLN.

S. Benedict.

The fine bell formerly hanging in this disused church has been removed to S. Mark's Church, Lincoln, which see.

LINCOLN.

S. Peter-at-Arches. 8 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1—3, 5—8. THE GIFT OF THE CITY OF LINCOLN 1728.
(Diams. $29\frac{5}{8}$, $30\frac{1}{8}$, $32\frac{1}{8}$, $37\frac{1}{2}$, 39, 43, $48\frac{1}{8}$ in.)

4. THE GIFT OF THE CITY OF LINCOLN. ABR. RVDHAL OF GLOCESTER CAST VS ALL 1728.
(Diam. $34\frac{1}{8}$ in.: key E flat.)

Priest's Bell (commonly called the Fire Bell):—
Blank.
(Diam. $13\frac{1}{4}$ in.)

On the bellframe is inscribed:—

JOHN WETHERALL MAYOR 1729 FRANCIS BUTCHER BELLHANGER.

The Corporation Records supply the following particulars as to the cost of these bells:—

1729.	Payment of £4 yearly by the Corporation to the Ringers.	
	Gave at first ringing of Bells	0 . 10 . 0
	For wood used about Bellframe	0 . 12 . 0
	For carrying old Bells to Torksey	0 . 15 . 0
	To Abraham Hayward for land carriage of the Bells & his journey	20 . 8 . 2
	For Ropes	1 . 6 . 8
	To John Holland for the Bell Frames	25 . 9 . 0
	Given him in earnest & spent when bargained with him	0 . 10 . 0
	To John Morley for carriage of Bells by water	10 . 0 . 0
	To Mr Butcher for making bellframes	57 . 11 . 0
	Spent when bargained with him	0 . 2 . 6
	To Mr Rudhall for the Bells	381 . 16 . 0

There was formerly a set of chimes here.

LINCOLN.

S. Peter-in-Eastgate. 1 Bell.

Here is a small bell (20 inches in diameter) cast by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough in the year 1875.

The S. Peter and S. Margaret *Parish Magazine* for June, 1875, gives the following paragraph:—

"Ever since the new church was built [in 1870] those who lived within sound of the bell have complained of its unpleasant tone. This grew worse and worse, until, at last, a crack appeared in the bell, and necessitated its removal. When taken down it was found to weigh 3 cwt. 14 lbs., and it bore the following inscription:—

+ Abe : Marie : Graci : Plena : Dominu : S : *(sic.)*

It was sent to Messrs. John Taylor and Co., bellfounders, Lough-

borough, to be recast, and was returned us with a very pleasant tone, and now weighs 3 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lbs. The whole expense of recasting, £14. 8*s*. 8*d*., has been generously defrayed by the Ven. Edward Trollope, Archdeacon of Stow. The old bell had done its work in three churches, having been brought to the former church of S. Peter-in-Eastgate from the church of S. Margaret-in-the-Close."

LINCOLN.

S. Margaret.

The bell from the church formerly standing in this parish was removed to S. Peter-in-Eastgate, which see.

LINCOLN.

S. Peter-at-Gowts. 6 Bells.

1—6. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1872.

Weights.	cwt.	qr.	lbs
1.	3	2	0
2.	4	0	19
3.	5	0	6
4.	5	2	26
5.	6	2	9
Tenor.	8	0	3
	33	0	7

Prior to the casting of the present ring there were only 3 bells here which were inscribed :—

1. James Cockell Edmvnd Brockellhvrst Chvrchwardens 1718 [○ 7.]
2. Jesvs be ovr speed ✠ W P 1639 A B [▽ 170.]
3. [□ 110 □ 112] Sce [□ 110] Petre [□ 112 ▽ 137] IHS.

LINCOLN.

S. Andrew. 1 Bell.

1. W. BLEWS & SONS BIRMINGHAM 1878.
(Diam. 23 in.)

LINCOLN.

S. Swithin. 1 Bell.

1. REV. GEORGE S. DICKSON PERPETUAL CURATE. W. A. NICHOLSON. J. S. WILKINSON CHURCHWARDENS 1851.
(Cast by C. & G. Mears: Weight 4 cwt. 0 qr. 21 lbs.)

This bell was cast from an older one.

LINWOOD.

S. Cornelius. 3 Bells.

1. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1863.
[*Royal* ▽ *Arms*]
PATENT.
(Diam. 32 in.)

2. [▽ 137] IN NO MI NE GO VS
(Diam. 34½ in.)

3. [▽ 137] SANC TA MA RI A
(Diam. 39½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XX.*

In 1553 there were here "iij gret belles & one santus bell."* Two of those still remain. The last four letters on the 2nd bell are probably

* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

meant for DEVS; the inscriptions on this type of bell are often ungrammatical. The letters on the 3rd bell, which has lost its canons, are small.

LISSINGTON.

S. JOHN. 1 BELL.

1. 1705.

(Diam. 20 in.)

LONDONTHORPE.

S. JOHN. 3 BELLS.

1. [+ 116] IHESVS BE OVR SPEED 1609 [□ 113.]
2. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1820.
3. [+ 116] All men that heare my mornfull sound repent before you lye in ground 1609 [□ 113.]

For Stamps see page 107 and *Plate XVI.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that a "handbell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been "sold to o^r vicar that now is who hathe made a morter of it."*

LOUTH.

S. JAMES. 8 BELLS.

1. FITZWILLIAM WHIGHT ROBART TATHWELL 1726 O O

(Diam. 32 in.)

2. CHARLS LOOSTE UIC DANIEL HEDDERLY CAST US ALL IN 1726.

(Diam. 33 in.)

---

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 114.

3. JOHN PAGGIT THO: FAULKNER C F O T T
(Diam. 35 in.)

4. DYMOCK YOUNG C.W. IOHANES HEDDERLY O O 1726.
(Diam. 39½ in.)

5. ACCORDING TO OUR SOUND LET HEDDERLY'S FAME SERROUND 1726.
(Diam. 41 in.)

6. Blank.
(Diam. 44¾ in.)

7. R. WHARF, R. ARLIS, J. BALLITT, N. SHAW 1746.
(Diam. 47 in.)

8. REV. WOLLEY JOLLAND VICAR, JOHN JACKSON & THOMAS BOGG CHURCHWARDENS 1818. JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER BARTON.
(Diam. 54 in.)

If the rather disjointed entries in the copies preserved of an ancient Record, now no longer extant, are understood, there were, in the fifteenth century, three bells hanging in the tower of this church then recently erected. During the first decade of the next century the spire or "Broach" was added, and the three bells were recast by a founder at Nottingham, whose name, unfortunately, is not preserved. These three bells are thus described in the Record to which reference has just been made:—

Memorandum the weight of the three bells in Louth.

Item the 1st the least bell called John, weynge [weighing]	13^{c} . 1^{qr}
Item the middle bell weigheth $15\frac{1}{2}^{c}$ except 9 pounds	15^{c} . 47^{lbs}
Item the great Bell called Stella Maris weigheth 18^{c} except 12 lbs.	17^{c} . 44^{lbs}
The least bell clapper weigheth a Quarter of C & 12 pounds	40^{lbs}
The middle Bell Clapper a qr. of C & 16 lbs	44^{lbs}
The great Bell Clapper ½ C & 6 lbs	62^{lbs}

M^{d} y^{t} ye 3 new Bells weighed heavier than ye 3 old Bells in Mettle, which Bell getter had in money £7 . 8 . 0, which was borrowed of Trinity Hutch, as appears by accompts there.

P^{d} for making 3 new Bells to . . . . . of Nottingham Bell getter	
Paid for 3 Indentures making betwixt this Town and the said Bell getter	4^{d}
Paid Wm Forster riding to the said Bell getter to Nottingham to see the Bells casting his expences	4^{d}
Paid Thos. Wright and Robert Burnett carrying two of the s^{d} Bells to Bracebridge beside Lincoln	6^{s} . 8^{d}
It. Carrying the 1st Bell to Bracebridge	8^{d}
Riding to Nottingham for the s^{d} Bells by 6 days ...	4 . 4
It. Carrying s^{d} 3 Bells from Bracebridge to Louth 2 Load	9 . 4
Making 3 Bell Clappers	14 . 0
P^{d} to . . Hardy for carrying the Rope from Saltflet Haven to Louth	6^{d}

The new spire approaching completion, the ring appears to have been augmented by the addition of three new bells: judging from the weights of the clappers these were a new treble, dedicated to the Blessed Trinity, the "5th bell," and a new tenor dedicated to S. James. These are all referred to in the following entries:—

To Oliver Whitaker Servt to the Bellfounder Nottingham	0 . 40^{s} . 0^{d}
It. p^{d} to ye s^{d} Oliver in full payment and payments in any condition which belongs to his s^{d} master as appears by a Indenture and Obligation wch he broke and cancelled	3 . 0 . 20^{d}
Also p^{d} . . Palmer taking diverse Suits at London of Bellfounder at Nottingham for because he would not deliver 3 new Bells	0 . 19^{s} . 0

p^{d} in expences to them that carried 2 new Bells from Nottingham to Louth		8^{d}
It. p^{d} John Spencer for an obligation making ...		4^{d}
p^{d} to the Bell founder of Nottingham part of a more sum for casting Trinity Bell	6^{s} .	8^{d}
p^{d} Robt. Goldsmith riding to Nottingham for Trinity Bell		20^{d}
Memorandum that John White, priest, gave to the buying of Trinity Bell in gold	6^{s} .	8^{d}
And also the said John gave 3 silver spoons to the same Bell, sold to Richard Lofte	8 .	6
Also rec^{d} of diverse men of their good will to the said Trinity Bell	54^{s} .	5^{d}

Trinity Bell Clapper weighs 3 qr. of L & 31 lb.
5th New Bell Clapper weighs 70 lbs.
James Bell Clapper weighs 121 lbs.

Memorandum: That John Quark of Boston, Smith, warrants the 2 Bell Clappers of his costs & charges at any time, if need be, during 7 years after.

p^{d} Robt. Johnson of Boston, smith, for mending Trinity Bell Clapper . . . Bell Clapper & ye 2nd Bell Clapper . . . . with other charges	9^{s} .	4^{d}
Also in expences to him and carriage of s^{d} Clappers from Boston to Louth.....	3^{s} .	4^{d}
Also p^{d} said Robt. for Iron & making the 5th Bell Clapper	17^{s} .	0

Memorandum that every pound of iron and workmanship cost 3^{d} a lb which is accompted for and ye s^{d} clapper weighs 3 score lbs & 6 lbs.

The bells were hung, the spire finished, and the weathercock placed upon it, in the year 1515, upon which occasion the bells rang out a merry peal:—

Mem^{d} ye 15 Sunday after Holy Trinity this year (1515) the weather cock was set upon the Broach of Holy Rood Eve after there being Will. Aylsby parish priest with many of his Brethren priests there present hallowing the s^{d} Weathercock, & the Stone that it stands upon, & so conveyed upon the s^{d} Broach. And then the s^{d} priests singing *Te Deum Laudamus* with organs; and then the Kirk-wardens garred Ring all ye Bells, and caused all the people there being to have Bread and Ale. And all to the loving of God, our Lady, & All Saints.

A further memorandum records:—

And the Weathercock was set upon the Broach of holy Rood Even, and hallowed with many priests there present, and all the Ringing, and also much people there and all to the pleasure of God. Amen.*

The following entries in the old Parish Books are preserved in *Notitiæ Ludæ*:—

1527-8.	To Harry Doyne for j bell strynge		ix*d.*
1553.	Item paid for a sakring bell		iiij*d.*
1556.	Item for knyllyng the bell in harvest for gatheringe of the pescods†		iiij*d.*
1570.	Pade to xxvj [?] Ringers that day that the Lord President came to towne	xiiij*s.*	ix*d.*
	Paid to the Ringers when the Lords came to the Towne	vij*s.*	
1635.	Paid ffor ringing the Lord of Lindsey to towne	xiv*s.*	vj*d.*

* See *Archæologia*, x. 85-92. I have also been favoured by James Wood, Esq., of Louth, with extracts, made by a different hand, from a copy of the original MS. The MS. Book itself, which contained an account of the "Edifices and Buildings of the Church and Steeple of Louth," from about the year 1500 to 1518, has long been missing [see *Notitiæ Ludæ*, p. 138], and it is evident that the copies or extracts preserved contain many clerical errors. The above account of the ancient bells is the result of a collation of the two sets of extracts just referred to, and, I believe, it conveys the facts.

† See p. 243.

1662. To the ringers when the Queene came in xxiij[rd] May ..... vs.
To the ringers when Sir Edward Lake came to the Visitation ..... xs. vj*d.**

The 5th bell was recast in 1616 when the weight was 19 cwt.

In 1640 the ringing chamber and clock were renewed: and about the same time a new frame for the bells was provided, for which Robert Parnell was to have £100.

The Great Bell which was recast in 1654, was, unfortunately, again cracked in December, 1722.†

According to a terrier taken on the 10th June, 1724, there were then six bells and a Saints' bell hanging in the steeple.‡

Two years later (in 1726) the whole ring was recast by Daniel Hedderly of Nottingham, and, most probably, at that time augmented to eight bells, the Saints' bell being sent to the foundry as a contribution to the extra metal required.

In the Churchwardens' Accounts now existing there is a credit for "Bell-money" (annually amounting to from £4. to £6.) in almost every year from 1758 to 1784 when it is entered for the last time. It would appear, that the wardens received the ringing fees, and paid the ringers their salaries out of the churchwardens' fund.

The Parish Vestry Books contain many entries relating to the bells. The following are abstracts of some of the Resolutions passed:—

1762. Dec. 10. That after Easter 1763 the Ringers shall not receive any salary for Ringing till Easter week annually.

1763. Feb. 15. That £11—be paid to Mr. John Sewell so soon as he shall put the church clock into sufficient and useful repair: and that he be allowed £1—per annum for keeping the same in repair for the space of eleven years to come.

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* *Notitiæ Ludæ* (1834), p. 47-53.

† These facts are obtained from a MS., "Nicholas Shaw, His Book, Louth, Aug. 14, 1760."

‡ *Notitiæ Ludæ*, p. 159.

1781. Aug. 28. That Bartholomew Howlett shall have a salary of £6 . 5 . 0 for one year, for which he shall take care of the church clock & chimes, & keep the same in proper order and condition.

1784. Oct 12. That it is absolutely necessary to have the Bells belonging to this church new hung, and the churchwardens are hereby impowered to seek out some proper person for the doing thereof.

1785. June 2. It is agreed between the churchwardens for the time being and John Caborn of Sutterton, Bell Hanger, that the said John Caborn shall rehang the Bells agreeable to an estimate this day delivered for the sum of £50 . 13 . 6; the whole to be compleated for the above sum, the churchwardens first putting the frame whereon the Bells hang in proper and compleat condition to the good liking of the said John Caborn. The said John Caborn does not desire to be paid till the churchwardens and Parishioners are satisfied that his work is well done.

1788. March 27. That from this day Mr. Howlett's Salary for attending the chymes cease and be void.

In October, 1798, the Great Bell was cracked when the bells were being rung "to commemorate Admiral Nelson's glorious victory." It remained in that state until 1818: at which date the extracts from the Vestry Book are resumed:—

1818. Mar. 24. That the churchwardens employ some proper person to examine the Bell Frame and report upon the state of the Bells and the propriety of removing the ringing chamber floor, recasting the Great Bell, and rehanging the Peal of Bells, that such report be forthwith made and submitted to a meeting of the charge-bearers and that the Vicar and Churchwardens take care that the Bells be not rung out until the same be pronounced free from danger.

1818. April 3. The Report of Mess[rs] James Harrison, James Copeland, John Espin, John Jackson, & Thomas Bogg (as underwritten), having been read is highly approved and they are requested to accept the thanks of this meeting for the very able manner in which the same is drawn up, & the judicious measures thereby suggested for remedying the several defects, & making the improvements therein pointed out, which are to be carried into execution.

It was resolved that plans, &c., be at once made out by Mr. James Harrison, and an opinion expressed that the tenor bell should be at once recast by him.

As the report referred to gives a detailed account of the state of the bells, bell chamber, &c., at that time, it is here given *in extenso* :—

We the undersigned having examined the timber of the Bell-frames, the floor beams, and the supporters of the framing, do find them in an exceedingly decayed state. The sills whereon the supporters rest being in such a dilapidated condition that one half of them at least have lost their foundations, and the bond sills in the wall on which the beam ends ought to rest, together with the ends of those beams, are, on the west side, so far gone to decay that they appear to have scarcely any other support than what arises from the collateral pressure occasioned by being jammed between the walls of the steeple as the beams and frame have settled on losing their supports. One of the principal beams also is rotten quite through, and broken in such a manner that the strength of a man is sufficient to bring it down : in a word they are so bad as not easily to be imagined by any person who does not closely examine them.

It also appears that the bells want rehanging exceedingly : the gudgeons being worn very flat, and the brasses worn wide, they make a violent jolting when rung, certainly to the detriment of the frame and steeple. The principle, likewise, on which they have been hung, is far from the best, and has caused the bells to give a

much greater swing, and, at the same time, has rendered them more unguidable in ringing, than if they had been hung in a more judicious manner.

It is likewise our opinion that to make the bells complete as a peal, and at the same time suitable for the clock to strike upon, the great bell must be recast, since the sound is not only weak, and somewhat dismal, but is also quite out of tune with the other bells.

As the bell-frame is now fixed entirely below the windows, which causes the sound of the bells to be thrown too much upwards, and consequently much of it to fly quite over the town, whereby the clock, at least the quarters, are heard better at a considerable distance than in the town itself; we therefore think it extremely proper that the bell-frames be raised higher in the steeple, so as to hang more near the centres of the windows from whence the sounds issue. This will not only make the clock be heard better, but will render the sounds more uniform when the bells are rung, by affording a much greater and more equal facility to the sound of each bell escaping through the windows.

Such an alteration would likewise admit of the present ringing chamber being taken away, as the bells, in such cases, would best be rung above the vaulted arch.

As to any advantage which the bells may have over the steeple by being hung higher, the difference will certainly be very trivial. The Bellhanger pledges his credit that the bellframe can be so contrived, and the bells hung so different, as to affect the steeple considerably less than is possible in their present manner of hanging, even though all things were in good order. Indeed it is not so much the swag of the bells (though this may be greatly reduced) as the injudiciousness of the framing, that has damaged the steeple.

Lastly, that the steeple may be restored to its primitive strength, it is recommended by us to place ties of oak timber close above the vaulted arch, to reach from side to side, with suitable anchors through the walls, which will hold them as effectually together, and

consequently render them as strong, as if they had never been separated.

Jno. Jackson.

Louth, 3 April, 1818. Jno. Espin.

The recommendations contained in this Report were carried out. The tenor bell was recast in the same year, and in the year 1820, Mr. James Harrison was further employed to rehang the whole ring, his estimate for which was £80.

Having put their bells into good order the parishioners very properly wished to have them well rung, so

1820. Sep. 22. It was resolved that an efficient body of Ringers be obtained from the parishioners, and that a proper person be employed to instruct them.

1829. Septr. 14. Amongst expences allowed:—Ringers including King's Birthday, Coronation-day and Winter Louth Fair Day £12 . 0 . 0.

The bells were again rehung and put into good order in 1872, and a chiming apparatus was at the same time put up: the cost of these improvements was met by public subscriptions chiefly collected by James Wood, Esq., of Louth, to whom I am much indebted for the extracts from the Vestry Books given above, and for much of the other information here given about the bells.

There is a tradition that a man lost his way on the Common to the north of Louth on the evening preceding Louth November Fair, and was enabled to make his way to the town by the sound of the bells then ringing. It is said that he left a sum of money for the ringers to ring on the anniversary of that evening, but if there was any endowment it has now disappeared. It is certain that for many years the bells were always rung on that evening, but whether in accordance with ancient custom, or because of the provision referred to, cannot now be said.

The Rev. Wolley Jolland (see tenor bell), a native of Louth, was inducted as Vicar in 1780. He was also Vicar of Tetney. He died at Louth on the 16th of August, 1831, and was buried at Yarborough.

See an account of him, and of the curious Hermitage he built at Louth, in the *Gent. Mag.* Vol. ci. Part 2 (1831), pp. 375-6.

LOUTH.

S. Mary. 3 Bells.

The ancient parish church of Louth, dedicated to S. Mary, being a considerable distance from the town, gradually fell into decay after the erection of the new church of S. James. It possessed three bells, as appears from the following extract from an ancient account :—

> The accompts of Robert Spencer of such money as the said Robert receyved as well for the three bells of St. Mare churche as for certeyn other things receyved by him as hereafter followeth :—
>
> First Recd. by hym for the said three bells in St. Mare churche..... 25*£* 11*s.* 7*d.**

LOUTH.

S. Michael. 1 Bell.

This is a small modern bell about 16 inches in diameter. Church erected in 1863.

LOUTH.

Holy Trinity. 1 Bell.

1. FR. GARTHSIDE RECTOR JAMES BOYES C.W. 1725.

The above bell (a second-hand one) was hung in the first church built in Holy Trinity District in 1834, and was brought from thence to the present church erected in the year 1866.

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* *Notitiæ Ludæ* (1834), p. 164.

LUDBOROUGH.

S. Mary. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 165] W S 1666.
(Diam. 27 in.)

2. THO. TRAUES CHURCH WARDEN 1708.
[○ 7.]
(Diam. 30 in.)

3. GLORIA IN ALTISSIMIS DEO 1724 JOHN TRAFFS THO. ASTERBE CHURCH WARDENS [□ 168.]
(Diam. 33 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXIV.* and page 59.

The Parish Register has the following entry relating to a previous bell:—

> The Great Bell of Ludborough was cast Ano Domi 1667 and cost 14 lb. 8s 3d ye casting.

LUDDINGTON.

S. Oswald. 3 Bells.

1, 2. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1855.
(Diams. 31, 32½ in.)

3. [□ 107] [▽ 127] Celorum xte placeat tibi rex sonus iste.
(Diam. 37 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XV.* and page 114.

In 1553 there were "iij gret belles one sauntus bell."*

When the church was rebuilt two only of those bells were left. One

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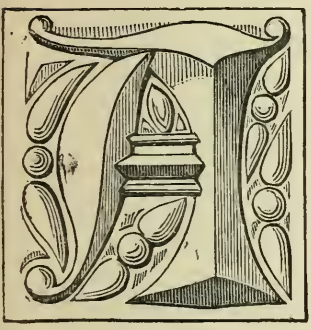
* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off.

of them which was sent to the foundry when the present 1st and 2nd were cast, bore the inscription:—

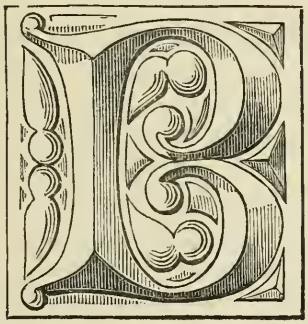
SCE OSWOLDE ORA PRO NOBIS

in the form of letters shown in figs. 195, 196, and 197, here engraved.

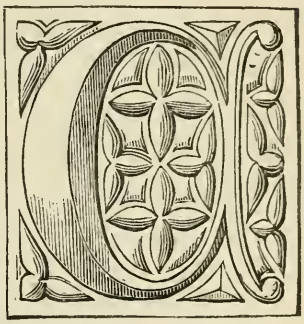
There is a saying that the Burton bells used to call across the Trent to Luddington—"Who ring best? Who ring best?" to which Luddington replied—"We two, we two."



195



196



197

The 3rd is one of a type common in Lincolnshire.

The Luddington folk used to be called

Luddington poor people
With a stone church and a wooden steeple,

but they now rejoice in a stone spire.

LUDFORD MAGNA.

S. Mary. 1 Bell.

There is one small modern bell in a turret, and inaccessible.

LUSBY.

S. PETER. 1 BELL.

There is here a modern bell, about 24 inches in diameter, which is an old bell recast about 30 years ago.

In 1553 there were here "ij great bells j santes bell."*

It is said that three bells remained until the church tower fell in the last century, when two were sold to pay for repairs.

MABLETHORPE S. MARY.

S. MARY. 5 BELLS.

1. Blank.

(Diam: 26 in.)

2. 1825.

(Diam. 29 in.)

3. 1724.

(Diam. 29 in.; broken.)

4. EDWARD WHITE : ROBERT BRAUSEBY : CHURCH WARDENS 1724.

(Diam. 32 in.)

5. ELI HENNEAGE : RECTOR : HEN : PENN : FOUNDER : 1724.

(Diam. 37 in. cracked; all canons cut off.)

MALTBY-LE-MARSH.

ALL SAINTS. 2 BELLS.

1. Trinitate Sacra Fiat hec Campana Beata [O 19.]

(Diam. 30 in.)

2. nomen Sanctorum gerit hec Campana pullorum [O 19.]

(Diam. 33½ in.)

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{54}$, P. R. Off.

For Stamp see page 70.

The frame shows that there were formerly three bells here: nothing is now known of the third.

The inscription on the 2nd bell is, so far as is known at present, unique: *puerorum*, the word used on other bells dedicated to the Holy Innocents would not have suited the verse, so the versifier hit upon the happy thought of *pullorum*—"The Holy Chicks."

MANBY.

S. Mary. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 121] Sum Rosa Pulsata Mundi Maria Vocata.
(Diam. 34 in.)
2. [+ 121] Missi De Celis Habeo Nomen Gabrielis [▽ 119.]
(Diam. 37 in.)
3. [+ 121] Sum Rosa Pulsata Mundi Maria Vocata [▽ 119.]
(Diam. 42 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XVIII.*

These are fine uniform bells, probably coeval with the Decorated Tower. The inscriptions on the 1st and 3rd are alike, but the letter S on the 1st is the short, that on the 3rd is the long form.

MANTHORPE.

S. John. 1 Bell.

1. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1848.

MANTON.

S. Hibald. 1 Bell.

1. [+ 117] AVE : MARIA : GRACIA
[□ 138.]
(Diam. 24 in.; slightly cracked.)

For Stamps see page 108 and *Plate XX.*, and for specimens of the letters see figs. 176 and 177 on *Plate XXVI.*

In 1553 "Mawunton" possessed "ij gret belles one santus bell."*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that a "tickynge belle," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been defaced and sold.†

The single remaining bell has its inscription in the same letters as those upon the curious 1st bell at Laceby. On the waist is a mark in the form of an arrow head, which was scratched on the mould.

MAREHAM-LE-FEN.

S. Helen. 3 Bells.

1. IHS MARIA [□ 109.]
(Diam. 33¼ in.)

2. 1819.
(Diam. 36 in.)

3. In noe ihu xpi ome genu flectat celestiu terstriu 't infroru 1627.
(Diam. 41 in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XVI.*

The inscription on the 3rd bell here is like that on the 4th at Corby.

Here is a chiming apparatus erected (when the church was restored) in 1873.

MAREHAM-ON-THE-HILL.

All Saints. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 18 in.)

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 116.

MARKBY.

S. PETER. 1 BELL.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 20 in.)

The present small thatched church is probably a fragment of the Priory of Austin Canons which stood here. Indeed there is a tradition that the small bell now hanging was the Refectory bell of the Priory, and further that John Longlands, Bishop of Lincoln, at the time of the Dissolution, purloined one of the largest bells in the kingdom which then hung in the tower of Markby Priory, and removed it to Lincoln, where it became known as Great Tom.

It appears that there were three bells here in 1556: in a letter from Robert Goche, Receiver of the County of Lincoln, dated the 14th of May in that year, and addressed to the Commissioners for lead and bells, he says:—

> I send you also the obligacon wch was taken of the parisshoners of Markbie for thre belles delivered to them by warraunte from my L. Riche.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "a handbell" which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time was still in their hands, but "wch thei have to break afore maii iiij."†

MARSH CHAPEL.

S. MARY. 3 BELLS.

1. DANIEL HEDDERLY MADE ME 1742.

(Diam. 35 in.)

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* *Land Revenue Records, Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{442}{16}$, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 117.

2. GLORIA IN ALTISSIMIS DEO 1699 [◻ 168.]

MATTHÆVS ADDISON
THOMAS FARROE } GVARDIANI.

(Diam. 39¼ in.)

3. IHO HAD DVS [◻ 151] 1584 [◻ 153.]

(Diam. 42½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXIV.*, and *XXII.*

In 1553 there were here "iij greatt belles j sanctus bell."* None of those now remain: the present 3rd is a rare instance of a late named bell.

MARSTON.

S. Mary. 5 Bells.

1, 2, 3. 1822.

4. JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON FOUNDER 1822.

5. JOHN MORLEY CHURCHWARDEN 1822 JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER BARTON.

MARTIN.

S. Michael. 1 Bell.

1. 1771.

(Diam. 18 in.)

In 1553 "Merton" in Gartree Wapentake possessed "ij great bells."†

MARTIN [with Timberland].

Holy Trinity. No Bell.

This new chapel has at present (1879) no bell: the school bell is used.

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

† *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

MARTON.

S. Margaret. 3 Bells.

1. [▽ 137] IHC SCA MARGRETA
[▫ 112.]
(Diam. 29½ in.)

2. [+ 106] GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH 1637.
(Diam. 32 in.)

3. [+ 116] IHESVS BE OVRE SPEDE
[▫ 113.]
(Diam. 34½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XX.*, *XVI.*, and *XV.*, and page 107.
See under Stow for a rhyme on these bells.

MELTON ROSS.

The Ascension. 1 Bell.

The small bell here is without inscription or date.

MESSINGHAM.

Holy Trinity. 5 Bells.

1, 2. 1785.
(Diams. 27, 30½ in.)

3, 4. WALKER & HILTON 1785.
(Diams. 32, 34 in.)

5. GLORIE BE TO GOD ON HIGH [▫ 158] 1630.
(Diam. 37 in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XXIII.*
In 1553 there were here "iij gret belles one sanctus bell."*

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off.

The smaller of the present bells are particularly narrow in crown and waist. The 4th has had a crack in the sound-bow excised.

The old Clerk here tells the following story:—A traveller passing through Messingham on a Sunday, a long, long time ago, noticed three men sitting on a stile in the churchyard and saying "Come to Church Thompson! Come to Church Brown!" and so on. Surprised at this, the traveller asked them what it meant: and was told that having no bells this was how they called folks to church. The traveller remarking that it was a pity so fine a church should have no bells, asked the men if they could make three for the church, promising to pay for them himself. This they undertook to do. They were a tinker, a carpenter, and a shoemaker respectively. When next viator came round he found the three men ringing three bells, which said, "Ting, Tong, Pfuff"—being made respectively of tin, wood, and leather.

There is in the possession of the Vicar of Messingham a MS. Book headed *Some Account of Messingham, drawn up by the desire of the Rev. Archdeacon Bayley, D.D., Vicar, by J. Mackinnon, M.A., Curate*, 1825. In this book, writing of the church, the author says:—"It once possessed a spire, the only one in the neighbourhood . . . . This, many years ago, owing to the dilapidated state of the tower, was, as also the tower, obliged to be taken down; the tower only was rebuilt. The three large bells which hung in the old tower were changed for five smaller ones, and these hung in the new tower." The same writer gives an account of the rapid method adopted by the parishioners to bring down the spire:—"The parishioners one Sunday (thinking that the spire would fall when they might happen to be in church during Divine Service) assembled together, tied all the waggon ropes they could procure in the village to it, and with a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether, brought it down. Amongst the number of hands who assisted on this occasion was an old woman upwards of eighty years of age, who died the next day."

There is a tradition that some time after the removal of the spire the west side of the tower fell down in the time of barley harvest, but the bells stood firm in their frames, and being safely taken down were sent

to Rotherham and "run down" into five. It will, however, be seen that the tenor bell was not cast at the time referred to—that is in 1785.

It is said that prior to the restoration of the church in 1818 there was a small bell in the porch called a "Tink-tank."

METHERINGHAM.

S. Wilfrid. 5 Bells.

1. THIS BELL RAISED BY SUBSCRIPTION REVD J. CASE, VICAR 1830.
(Diam. 27½ in.)
2. GOD SAVE SIH CHVRCH 1620.
(Diam. 28½ in.)
3. GOD SAVE THE KIИG 1620 [▽ 156.]
(Diam. 30 in.)
4. [+ 116] IESVS BEE OVR SPEED 1620.
[▽ 156.]
(Diam. 32 in.)
5. Hec Campana Sacra Fiat Trinitate Beata 1620.
[▽ 156.]
(Diam. 35½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXIII.*, and page 107.

The Rev. J. Case (see 1st bell) was instituted as Vicar in 1825.

MIDVILLE.

— ? 1 Bell.

This church, erected in 1819, possesses one small bell.

MININGSBY.

S. Andrew. 1 Bell.

The single small bell here is without inscription or date.

In 1553 "Mynygsby" possessed "ij great bells, on[e] s[anctus bell]."*

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{34}$, P. R. Off.

MINTING.

S. Andrew. 1 Bell.

This is a small modern bell, about 15 inches in diameter, hanging in a turret, which is a poor representative of the "ij bells in ye stepyll & j sanct' bell" which hung here in 1553.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "ij handbelles . . . [and] a sacringe bell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, were "brokne and sold A° primo Elizabeth."†

MOORBY.

All Saints. 1 Bell.

1. J. TAYLOR & CO. FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1866.

When the church was rebuilt in 1866 the old bell, being cracked, was recast as above.

MOORHOUSES [with Revesby].

— ? 1 Bell.

This chapel-of-ease, built in 1875, has one small steel bell.

MORTON.

S. John. 5 Bells.

1. VOX MEA EST DULCIS MEA SCINTILLANS VULTUS THOS EAYRE :·· DE KETTERING : FECIT :· 1755 ✠
(Diam. 31 in.)
2. THE REVD SAMUEL HOPKINSON, VICAR, JOHN LAMBERT CHURCHWARDEN 1816.
(Diam. 35 in.)

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 118.

3. STATUTUM EST SEMEL OMNIBUS MORI EDWARD FRANKS C.W. JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1798.
(Diam. 36 in.)

4. NOS SUMUS CONSTRUCTI AD LAUDEM DOMINI :·· GLORIA PATRI FILIO & SPIRITUI SANCTO ○ 1755 ○
(Diam. 40 in.)

5. CUM SONO SI NON VIS VENIRE, NUNQUAM AD PRECES CUPIES IRE :· ✠ JOHN SYMPSON, CHURCH WARDEN : 1755. THO^S EAYRE FECIT :
(Diam. 45 in.)

The Rev. Samuel Hopkinson (see 2nd bell) was presented to the Rectories of Morton and Hacconby in the year 1795.

MORTON-BY-GAINSBOROUGH.

S. Paul. 1 Bell.

1. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1846.
(Diam. 24 in.)

MOULTON.

All Saints. 5 Bells.

1. EGO SUM VOX CLAMANTIS JOSEPH EAYRE S^T NEOTS FECIT.
(Diam. 33 in.)

2. [+ 2] ИОИ CLAMOR SED AMOR CAИTAT IИ AVRE DEI. TOBIE ИORRIS CAST ME
RAFE IACKSON THOMAS RAYE CH WA 1626.
(Diam. 34 in.; turned.)

3. T. OSBORN FECIT 1785.
(Diam. 36 in.)

4. [+ III] GOD SPEED VS WEL SAYTH THOMAS HILL 1588 [□ 113.]

(Diam. 41 in.; turned.)

5. REV^ND MAURICE JOHNSON D.D. VICAR VENITE CUM VOCO. JOHN BRIANT & JOHN CABOURN HERTFORD FECERUNT 1805. R. THORP & R. KING C.W.

(Diam. 46 in.; note E.)

For Stamps see page 52 and *Plate XVI.*

The Rev. Maurice Johnson, D.D. (5th bell), died 25th May, 1834 [?], aged 78; he was Vicar of Moulton for fifty-three years.

There is a tradition (without any foundation in fact) that the bells here came originally from Croyland Abbey.

The steeple being accidently set on fire in 1785, the 3rd bell was destroyed or damaged, hence the present one dated in that year.

The present ring is in excellent tune and good order, but, owing to a bad arrangement for the ringers, ringing is well-nigh impossible.

MOULTON CHAPEL.

— ? 1 BELL.

A small bell, cast in 1722, hangs in a turret in the centre of this octagonal chapel.

MOULTON SEAS END.

— ? 1 BELL.

Here is a small bell, 12 inches in diameter, placed in the turret in 1868.

MUCKTON.

HOLY TRINITY. 1 BELL.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 18 in.)

The present bell was given to the church about the year 1820.

MUMBY.

S. Peter. 4 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER BARTON 1820.
(Diam. 41 in.)

2. [+ 59] Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum [▽ 55 + 15.]
(Diam. 43 in.)

3. [+ 59] In Multis Annis Resonet Campana Johannis [+ 15 ▽ 55.]
(Diam. 47 in.)

4. MY ROREING SOVND WARNING DOTH GIVE THAT MAN ON EARTH SHALL NOT LONG LIVE. DANIEL HEDDERLY MADE ME IN 1737 WILLIAM NELCY C.W.
(Diam. 47 in.)

Priest's Bell :—

Blank.

For Stamps see *Plates VII.* and *II.*

MUMBY CHAPEL.

S. Leonard. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 13 in; out of order.)

NAVENBY.

S. Peter. 6 Bells.

1. THE LORD TO PRAISE MY VOICE I'LL RAISE T. OSBORN FECIT 1797.
(Diam. 29⅝ in.)

2. PEACE AND GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD THO^{S} OSBORN FOUNDER 1797.
(Diam. $31\frac{3}{8}$ in.)
3. LONG LIVE KING GEORGE THE THIRD. T. OSBORN FECIT 1797.
(Diam. $33\frac{1}{8}$ in.)
4. GIVE NO OFFENCE TO THE CHURCH T. OSBORN FECIT 1797.
(Diam. $34\frac{5}{8}$ in.)
5. OUR VOICES SHALL WITH JOYFULL SOUND MAKE HILL AND VALLEYS ECHO ROUND THO^{S} OSBORN FECIT 1797.
(Diam. $37\frac{5}{8}$ in.; cracked.)
6. REV^{D} DEARING JONES RECTOR CHA^{S} SINGLETON CH. WARDEN GAVE ONE HUNDRED POUNDS TOWARDS CASTING THESE SIX BELLS.
(Diam. $41\frac{1}{2}$ in.)

Prior to 1797 there were three bells inscribed:—

1. Richard Dorwean gave me to the church of Naueby 1589.
2. In nomine Jesu Maria.
3. Sc̄e Edmunde ora pro nobis.*

The Rev. Dearing Jones (6th bell) of Christ College, B.A. 1740, M.A. 1744, was rector of this parish as early as 1753; he was also vicar of S. Andrew's, Cambridge. He died 12th November, 1803, in his 84th year; he was buried in the chancel. His tombstone is there, but not actually over his grave, it (the stone) being removed when the church was restored.

Charles Singleton, the benefactor to the bells (6th bell), was a landowner here; he died 8th December, 1816, aged 79. His tombstone lies on the chancel floor, but was only placed there in 1876, when, at the restoration of the church, the site of his grave was reincluded within the walls of the church.

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* *Harl. MSS.* 6829, p. 334.

NETTLEHAM.

All Saints. 6 Bells.

1. J. PROCTER C.W. 1740. SAM^L DRAKE VICAR. THE RINGERS GIFT & OTHERS D H FOUNDER.
2. VENITE EXULTEMUS.
3. HENRY ROGERS C.W. SAM^L DRAKE MINISTER.
4. DANIEL HEDDERLY CAST US ALL IN 1724.
5. Blank.
6. JOHN ASTROPP & HENRY ROGERS C.W. SOLI DEO GLORIA 1724.

NETTLETON.

S. John Baptist. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 31] Sancte Iacobe Ora Pro Nobis [▽ 32 ▫ 33.]
(Diam. 33½ in.)
2. [+ 116] IHESVS BE OVR SPED 1614.
(Diam. 35½ in.)
3. [+ 162] Santitas Domino 1673 W S
(Diam. 39½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate III.*, page 107, and *Plate XXIV.*
The present bells have been recently rehung.

NEWTON.

S. Botolph. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 116] GABRELIS EGO GANA VOBIS ORE IVCVNDO NVNC 1596.
(Diam. 32½ in.)

2. [+ 116] HERE AND DRED GOD
[□ 113.]
(Diam. 35½ in.)

3. THOMAS NORRIS MADE ME 1641.
(Diam. 39½ in.)

For Stamps see page 107 and *Plate XVI.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "two handbelles," belonging to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold to "Johnne Carr who haith broken them," and that "one sacringe bell" had been "broken in peces and made awaie."*

NEWTON-BY-TOFT.

S. Michael. 1 Bell.

In 1553 there were here "iij greatt Belles j sanctus Bell."†

There is now one bell only, and there being no ladder in the parish long enough to reach it, I must be content to quote the description kindly supplied to me by the Rector:—

> "It is a good bell of fine full tone, and can be heard two miles off. It hung for 150 years or more in the gabled belfry of the old church; and when this (the church) was rebuilt, in 1860, it was suspended in an open stone Campanile. There is no inscription—the maker's name only, which I cannot call to mind."

NEWTON-ON-TRENT.

S. Peter. 3 Bells.

1. JOHN BROWNE GAVE XXL HARDOLPH COTTON GAVE XL 1664 [□ 157.]
(Diam. 31 in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 118. † *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

2. [+ 164] GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH W S H W 1683.
(Diam. 34 in.)
3. [+ 164] IF GOD BE WITH VS HO CAN BE AGAINST VS W S H W 1682.
(Diam. 36 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXIII*, and *XXIV*.

The gifts to the 1st bell were £20. and £10.

The omission of the first letter in the relative pronoun on the 3rd bell is in accordance with the local pronunciation.

The same error is found on tombstones [J. T. F.] See also the 1st bell at Brigsley.

NOCTON.

All Saints. 6 Bells.

1. BLESSING. MEARS & CO FOUNDERS LONDON 1865.
(Diam. 26 in.)
2. HONOUR. MEARS & CO. FOUNDERS LONDON 1865.
(Diam. 27 in.)
3. GLORY. MEARS & CO FOUNDERS LONDON 1865.
(Diam. 28 in.)
4. POWER. MEARS & CO FOUNDERS LONDON 1865.
(Diam. 31 in.)
5 BE UNTO HIM THAT SITTETH ON THE THRONE. MEARS & CO FOUNDERS LONDON 1865.
(Diam. 33¼ in.)
6. AND UNTO THE LAMB FOR EVER AND EVER. MEARS & CO. FOUNDERS LONDON 1865. THESE BELLS WERE THE GIFT OF SARAH ALBINIA LOUISA COUNTESS OF RIPON TO NOCTON CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS. REBUILT A.D. 1863 GEORGE GILBERT SCOTT R.A. ARCHT
(Diam. 35½ in.)

The ancient church here had only one bell. The present church was erected by the late Countess of Ripon, the donor of the present ring. She died on the 9th April, 1867.

NORMANBY NEAR SPITAL.

SS. Peter and Paul. 3 Bells.

1. DANIEL HEDDERLY MADE VS IN 1747.
2. ✠ I ANNO DOMINI 1571.
   [□ 107]
3. S [+ 140] S [+ 140] S [+ 140] S [+ 140]
   [▽ 127]

For Stamps see *Plate XV.*, and pages 114 and 118.

In 1566 the churchwardens of "Normanbie jux[a] Ownbie" reported that "a paire of handbells," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold.*

NORMANBY-ON-THE-WOLDS.

S. Peter. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 106] GOD [□ 107] [▽ 127] SAVE OVR ·:· CHVRCH ·:·
   (Diam. 27½ in.)
2. GOD SAVE THE CHURCH 1629.
   (Diam. 30½ in.)
3. 1828.
   (Diam. 35 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XV.*

In 1553 there were here "iij gret belles j santus bell."†

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 119. † *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

NORMANTON.

S. Nicolas. 3 Bells.

1. ELIZOBETH PANE ETHEL PANE DONER 1743.
(Diam. 30 in.)

2. MAGDALENE
(Diam. 32 in.)

3. [+ 107] GOD ·:· SAVE ·:· HIS ·:· CHVRCH ·:· OUR ·:· QUEENE ·:· AND ·:· REALME ·:· AND ·:· SEND ·:· VS ·:· PEACE ·:· IN ·:· CHRIST ·:· AMEN.
(Diam. 36 in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XV.*

Nothing is known (beyond their liberality) of the two ladies mentioned on the 1st bell. Their names are not found in the Parish Registers.

The inscription on the 2nd bell is in fine ornate gothic capitals like those on the 4th bell at Swinstead.

NORTHORPE.

S. John. 1 Bell and a Priest's Bell.

1. [□ 107] [+ 130] [▽ 127] SEND PASTORS PURE IN VVORD AND LIFE
(Diam. 30½ in.)

Priest's Bell :—

1703.
(Diam. 12⅝ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XV.* and *XIX.* and page 114.

In 1553 the church of Northorpe possessed "ij gret belles & one sanctus bell."*

The date of the present larger bell is probably about 1600 [J. T. F.] It has the band ornament fig. 115 (*Plate XVII.*) between the words.

NORTON BISHOP'S.

S. Peter. 3 Bells.

1. [□ 107] [▽ 127] SANC TE PE TRE

(Diam. 31½ in.)

2. [□ 82 □ 81 ▽ 80] SCA MARIA ORA PRO NOBIS

(Diam. 36 in.)

3. MICHAEL WIGELSWORTH WILL SPAVIN CHVRCH WARDENS HENRY PENN MADE ME 1708.

(Diam. 39½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XV.*, page 114, and *Plate XIV.*

NORTON DISNEY.

All Saints. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 106] GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH 1631.

(Diam. 26½ in.)

2. [▽ 124] MARIA VIRGO ASSUMPTA EST IN CELUM

(Diam. 29½ in.)

3. [+ 106] GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH 1606 [□ 113.]

(Diam. 32 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XV.*, page 111, and *Plate XVI.*

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off.

ORBY.

ALL SAINTS. 3 BELLS AND A PRIEST'S BELL.

1, 2. [+ 1] THOMAS NORRIS MADE MEE 1663.
(Diams. 30½, 33 in.)

3. [+ 66 ▽ 68] Sc̄a Maria Ora Pro Nobis.
(Diam. 37 in.)

Priest's Bell :—

1610.
(Diam. 13½ in.)

For Stamps see page 52, and *Plate VIII.*

ORMSBY NUN.

S. HELEN. 1 BELL.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 19 in.)

ORMSBY SOUTH.

S. LEONARD. 5 BELLS.

1. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1757.
(Diam. 24 in.)

2. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1757 J. SMITH RECTOR.
(Diam. 26 in.)

3. I [+ 59?] H [▽ 11.]
(Diam. 27½ in.)

4. [+ 15] Sancta Margareta Ora Pro Nobis [▽ 11.]
(Diam. 31 in.)

5. [+ 66] Conrade Sono sreto more meo.
(Diam. 31½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates VII.*, *II.*, and *VIII.*

In 1552 when the Inventory of Church Goods belonging to "Southe Ormsby in the parties of Lyndsay" was drawn up the following entries relating to the bells and their value were made:—

It' iij bells	xvj*li.*
It' one lytel bell.....	x*s.*
It' ij handbells	ij*s.**

The inscription on the 5th bell is illegible as taken both by rubbings and squeezes: it is given above as literally as possible, but is clearly wrong.

There is a tradition here that the two largest bells came from Calceby in 1757, when the church there was pulled down: it is more probable that the two bells from that place were then sent to the foundry, and are now represented by the present 1st and 2nd here cast in that year, and that the three ancient bells are those referred to in the Edwardian Inventory. In the ringing chamber is a small board with the names of the first five ringers thus:—

Samuel Webster
Richard Hobson
Francis Ealand
George Baston
Samuel Burges
The first set on the 5 bells
1758.

On the bell-frame is cut:—

John Smith Rec^{t} Willm Eland Church^{wdn} James Harrison of Mid^{l} Raison Bell-hanger 1757.

The Rev. John Smith (see 2nd bell) was Rector for twenty-six years, and died on the 30th October, 1778. His tombstone is in the churchyard.

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 78, P. R. Off.

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OSBOURNBY.

SS. PETER AND PAUL. 3 BELLS.

1. DANIEL HEDDERLA 1455.
(Diam. 29½ in.)
2. JESVS BE OVR SPEED 1634.
(Diam. 31½ in.)
3. [+ 12] Sum Rosa Pulsata Mundi Katerina Vocata [+ 16.]
(Diam. 36½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate II.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "the handbelles," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been "sold to Tho Bell and Willm Pell and thei have made brase morters wt the'."*

In the belfry is the following:—

Take The Belfry Rule. Notice

This is a Belfry that is free
For all that sivil be
And if you please to ring
Or chime it is a very pleasant thing
Their is no music playd or sung
Like Bells when their well rung
Then ring your bell well if you can
Silence is for every man.
If here you swear or ring in hat,
Sixpence you pay, beware of that;
And if a bell you overthrow
Two pence you pay before you go.

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 120.

OWERSBY NORTH.

S. Martin. 1 Bell and a Priest's Bell.

1. RICHARD DONGWORTH VICAR EDWARD HEWSON THO RABY CHVRCH WARDENS HENRY PENN MADE ME 1708.

(Diam. 37½ in.)

Priest's Bell:—

1713.

[□ 168] [□ 168]

(Diam. 18½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXIV*.

In 1553 there were here "iij gret bells & one sanctus bell."*

There is a rhyme current in this neighbourhood for which I find no foundation beyond the fact disclosed by this Indented Inventory that two great bells are now wanting :—

Owersby parish
Wicked people
Sold their bells to Kelsey
To build a steeple.

The Rev. Richard Dongworth was inducted in 1698. There is no entry of his burial in the Register, but he appears to have died in the winter of 1711-12.

OWMBY.

SS. Peter and Paul. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 162] GOD SAVE THE KING W S H W 1687.

(Diam. 24 in.)

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

2. [+ 162] LET VS REMEMBER THE 5 OF NOVEMBER W S H W 1687.
(Diam. 25 in.)

3. [+ 162] WHEN YOV DIE ALOVD I CRY W S H W 1687.
(Diam. 27 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXIV.*

In 1566 the churchwardens of "Ownedbie" reported that "two handbelles" which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time had been sold since the last visitation.*

OWSTON.

S. Martin. 6 Bells.

1, 2. FRANCES SANDARS GAVE THIS BELL A.D. 1847 TO HER PARISH CHURCH. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1847.
(Diams. 25, 30 in.)

3, 5. THE REV. W. STONEHOUSE M.A. VICAR · JOSEPH COOPER CHURCH WARDEN 1822. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT.
[Diams. 32, 36 in.]

4. FRANCES SANDERS GAVE THIS BELL A.D. 1847 TO HER PARISH CHURCH. C. &. G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON.
(Diam. 34 in.)

6. ALL MEN THAT HEARE MY MVRNFVLL SOWND REPENT BEFORE YOV LY IN GROVND 1662 [□ 157.]
(Diam. 40 in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XXIII.*

In 1553 there were here "iiij greyt belles and Santus bell."†

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 120. † *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off.

Until the year 1847 there were still four bells and a small Priest's bell, which latter hung outside the steeple, and was probably the Sanctus bell mentioned in the Edwardian Inventory just quoted.

On the stock of the 4th bell is:—

W. Raynor
church E + Lee
warden
1854.

The Rev. W. B. Stonehouse, subsequently Archdeacon of Stow, was instituted as Vicar of Owston in January, 1821; he died 18th December, 1862, and was buried here.

His sister-in-law, Miss Frances Sandars, the donor of the 1st, 2nd, and 4th bells, died at Owston on the 27th December, 1868.

It is related of Archdeacon Stonehouse that he used to say to Miss Sandars, "I always pray for you, Fanny, when I hear those bells."

Both Archdeacon Stonehouse and Miss Sandars left considerable sums of money for the benefit of the church, organ, schools, poor, choir, ringers, &c., of this parish.

OXCOMBE.

All Saints. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 12 in.)

In 1552 this church possessed "Itm̃ ij bells one lytle bell ij handbells & one pare of sencers," which were valued at "xls."*

PANTON.

S. Andrew. 1 Bell.

Here is one small bell in a dilapidated brick cote: it is believed to be without either inscription or date.

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 78, Church Goods, P. R. Off.

PARTNEY.

S. Nicolas. 3 Bells.

1. HENRY PENN FVSORE PETERBOROVGH 1712.
(Diam. 31 in.)

2. [+ 116] IHESVS BE OVR SPEED 1595 [□ 113.]
(Diam. 32 in.)
[□ 11] [□ 11] [□ 11]

3. [+ 12] Sum Rosa Pulsata Mundi Katerina Vocata
(Diam. 35 in.)

For Stamps see page 107, and *Plates XVI.* and *II.*

PICKWORTH.

S. Andrew. 2 Bells.

1. GOD SAVE THE CHURCH [□ 113.]
(Diam. 30 in.)

2. sancte andrea ora pro nobs
(Diam. 33½ in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XVI.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "one handbell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been "broken and defaced anno dni 1565."*

There is a space for a third bell.

PILHAM.

All Saints. 1 Bell.

1. [□ 107] [▽ 127] H [▽ 131]
(Diam. 29 in.: pattern round □ 115.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 123.

For Stamps see *Plate XV.*, page 114, and *Plates XIX.* and *XVII.*

In 1553 the ancient church here contained "iij gret belles one santus bell."*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "one sacring bell and ij handbells," which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, "remaynith."†

There has been no parish clerk here for some time; the bell is never used, not even for Divine Service. It has the elegant band ornament of oak leaves and acorns (fig. 115).

The single letter Ꝑ is that figured No. 149, on page 123.

PINCHBECK EAST.

S. Mary. 5 Bells.

1. [+ 3] GOD SAVE THE KING A LAWSOИ TOBIE ИORRIS CAST ME 1677.
(Diam. 36 in.)

2. [+ 1] GOD SAVE THE KING W CLOVES TOBIE ИORRIS CAST ME 1677.
(Diam. 38 in.)

3. [+ 2] ИOИ [□ □ □ 4] VOX SED [□ □ □ 4] VOTVM [□ □ 4] ИOИ [□ □ □ 4] MVSICA [□ □ □ 4] CORDVLA [□ □ □ 4] SED [□ 4] COR [□ 4] 1624. TOBIE NORRIS ME FECIT
[*Royal Arms* ▽ *of James I.*]
(Diam. 41 in.)

4. [+ 1] CARIS HOLYDAY THOMAS ELLIN C.W. THOMAS ANSILL 1619.
(Diam. 43 in.)

5. [+ 1] GOD SAVE THE KING J WIMBERLIE B WIMBERLIE M MICHILL [+ + 1] W SHARP J OLFIEILD T BISSEL TOBIE ИORRIS CAST ME 1677.
(Diam. 48 in. All without canons.)

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{33}$, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 123.

For Stamps see pages 52 and 53.

There was another bell here—a small one—which being cracked was taken down, recast, and given to the new district church of S. Bartholomew.

The Rev. Michael Mitchell, whose name is on the tenor bell, was Vicar of the parish: he died on 10th October, 1714, aged 76 years. The John Wimberlie and Bevile Wimberlie on that bell were, I believe, father and son, descended from Wm. Wymberley, who was of South Witham early in the sixteenth century.*

The following leaflet was, some time ago, printed and circulated in the neighbourhood:—

> The following various items for work done at the Church of Pinchbeck, and for other services, was recently discovered among the parochial records of that place, where it now remains. It appears that objections had been made to the Account, which, however, were overcome by the rhyming powers of the village carpenter, who ultimately obtained payment:—
>
> Dec. 20th, 1769.

	£.	s.	d.
Oil for little and great Bell			
T'other three went very well	0	1	0
To eating and drinking at the Bell			
For Ringing Christmas in so well	0	12	6
Paid for lean-toos, posts and planks			
Over the grounds of neighbour Franks			
Drunkards pulled up in their pranks	0	8	0
Item, cutting and contriving,			
Four pence nails, and sixpence driving	0	0	10
Lain a plank in Cuckoo Lane			
Cuckolds never can complain,			
They may go to Church and back again	0	2	0

* See a Pedigree of this family in the *Genealogist*, Vol. IV. p. 6.

For a new pulpit, oak the wood
As parson Townshend said it should ..... 5 . 5 . 0
To going to Pepper and to Gall
For cash to do the work withall
They the pulpit did, and preach, and all ..... 0 . 1 . 0

£6 . 10 . 4

When such hot and bitter folks,
Pay me for my deals and oaks
I know no more than Joney Noakes.

THOS. STILES.

There is a tradition that the bells from Croyland Abbey were transferred to this church, there being no other tower in the neighbourhood large enough for them.

PINCHBECK WEST.

S. BARTHOLOMEW. 2 BELLS.

This modern church, erected in 1849, has two small bells—one provided for the church when it was built, and the other was the priest's bell at East Pinchbeck. This latter bell was cast by Tobie Norris in 1633, and, being cracked, was recast before it was hung as the second bell here.

PONTON GREAT.

HOLY CROSS. 5 BELLS.

1. [+ 116] IHESVS BE OVR SPEEDE
1601. [□ 113]
(Diam. 30 in.)

2. [+ 31] Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis
(Diam. 33 in.)

3. [+ 31] Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum.
(Diam. 36 in.)

4. I sweetly toling men do cal to taste on meats that feeds the soule 1632 [□ 157.]
(Diam. 39½ in.)

5. T. ASKEW. J. ASKEW WARDENS 1667 GOD SAVE THE KING [□ 159.]
(Diam. 43½ in.)

For Stamps see page 107, *Plates XVI.*, *III.*, and *XXIII.*, and page 127.

The tower of this Church was completed in 1519 by Anthony Ellys, a merchant of the Staple of Calais, who, having made his fortune by honest industry and transmitted a portion of his gains to his wife in gold enclosed in a cask labelled "Calais sand," bought lands at Basingthorpe, and Swineshead, as well as at Great Ponton, where he built a house for himself close to the church, and then erected this fine tower (with the concurrence of his wife), as a thankoffering to God. After his death he was buried beneath an altar tomb in the north eastern corner of the chapel adjoining the chancel of this church.* The motto (carved by order of the founder) "Thynke and Thanke God of all," appears on the north and south faces of the tower, in which he would undoubtedly hang a ring of bells; of that ring we may safely infer the present 2nd and 3rd bells to have been a portion.

PONTON LITTLE.

S. Guthlac. 1 Bell.

1. 1694.
(Diam. 20 in.)

In 1566 the churchwardens of "Paunton P'a" reported that "one handebell," which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, had

* *Reports and Papers of Ass. Arch. Societies*, xiii. p. 16.

been "broken in peces," and that "one sacringe bell and one handbell" had been "stolen forthe of or churche by theves that robbed o^r^ said churche."*

Over the bellcot is "An° D 1657."

POTTERHANWORTH.

S. Andrew. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 16] FEARE GOD 1616.
(Diam: 26 in.)
2. DANIEL HEDDERLY CAST ME IN 1736.
(Diam. 28 in.)
3. Taylor & Son Loughborough 1858.
(Diam. 30 in.)

For Stamp see page 107.

The proceeds of a cottage and a few acres of land have long been given for the ringing of the 1st bell at seven o'clock in the evening from Michaelmas to Lady-day. The endowment is said to have been provided by a person, who being lost on Lincoln Heath, was guided to his home by the sound of one of the Potterhanworth bells then being rung.

QUADRING.

S. Margaret. 4 Bells.

1. [+ 2] THOMAS NORRIS MADE MEE 1638.
[*A* □ *Bird*] [*A* □ *Dolphin*] [*A* □ *Thistle*]
(Diam. 33¼ in.)
2. JOHN LUDD GEORGE CROW CHURCHWARDENS T. OSBORN FECIT 1788.
(Diam. 34¼ in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 122.

3. In anno dni 1619.
(Diam. 35 in. No canons.)
4. In noe ihu xpi 1619.
(Diam. 39¼ in. No canons.)

For Stamp see page 52.
The bells here were previously inscribed:—

1. Scē Martine ora pro nobis.
2. Scā Maria.
3. God blesse the Holy church.
4. Virgo coronato duc nos ad regna beata.*

Thomas Norris seldom used the curious stamps on the 1st bell: they are upon the 4th bell at Aldwincle All Saints, Northamptonshire.

QUARRINGTON.

S. Botolph. 2 Bells.

1. rob tomlinson wil copland 1624.
(Diam. 25 in.)
2. [+ 140] S [+ 140] S
(Diam. 28 in.)

For Stamp see page 118.

RAITHBY-BY-LOUTH.

S. Peter. 2 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1830.
(Diam. 26 in.)
2. God Save The King 1636. I A B
(Diam. 29 in.)

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* *Harl. MSS.* 6829, p. 227.

Priest's Bell :—

Blank.
(Diam. 14 in.)

In 1553 "Rythbye" possessed "iij greate bells and one saunce bell."*

RAITHBY-BY-SPILSBY.

HOLY TRINITY. 3 BELLS.

1. [+ 140] S H [+ 140.]
(Diam. 29½ in.)
2. [+ 140] S [+ 140] S [+ 140] S
(Diam. 30 in.)
3. god save his church 1620.
(Diam. 32 in.)

For Stamps see page 118.

RANBY.

S. GERMAN. 3 BELLS.

1—3. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1840.
(Diams. 30½, 32, 34 in.)

In 1553 there were here "iij gret bells & a sanctus bell.†

These bells were, under now unknown circumstances, lost to the church, for prior to 1839, when the tower was rebuilt, there was only one small bell; the present ring was then substituted for it by the patron.

RAND.

S. OSWALD. 2 BELLS.

1. JESUS BE OUR SPEED [O 7.]
(Diam. 26¼ in.)

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off.

† *Land Revenue Records,* Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

2. AVE [□ 69] MARIA [□ 69] GRACIA [□ 69] PLENA [□ 69.]
(Diam. 31¼ in.)

For Stamps see page 59 and *Plate VIII.*, and for specimens of the letters on the 2nd bell see figs. 192 and 193 on *Plate XXVII.*, where, however, the letter P is reversed.

It is said that a third bell, being cracked, was sold for £30., and the proceeds employed towards the cost of rebuilding a portion of the church in 1836.

RASEN MARKET.

S. Thomas Apostle. 6 Bells.

1, 6. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1862.
[*Royal* ▽ *Arms.*]
Patent.
(Diams. 25; 37 in.)

2. 1808
(Diam. 26½ in.)

3. J ♙ H [□ 10.]
1795
(Diam. 27½ in.)

4. GLORIA DEO IN EXCELCIS 1734.
(Diam. 29½ in.)

5. DANIEL HEDDERLY FOUNDER.
(Diam. 33 in.)

For Stamp see *Plate I.*

In 1553 "Estereason" possessed "iij great belles j sanctus bell."*

In 1566 the churchwardens of "Market Reason" reported "or

* Written in body of Inventory "Estreson."—*Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off. "East Rasen otherwise Market Rasen."—*Gent. Mag.* for 1789, p. 282.

handbell," which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, "was gone out of or church (as or vicar saith) by a madd woman a yeare ago."*

There is a Peal Board dated 10th August, 1878.

RASEN MIDDLE.

S. Peter. 3 Bells.

1. 1699 [○7]
(Diam. 27 in.)

2. SOLI DEO GLORIA 1721. RIC : BENNETT THO : WRABY CHVRCH WARDENS [□ 168]
(Diam. 29½ in.)

3. GOD SAVE QVEEN ANN 1707 [○7.]
(Diam. 31½ in.)

For Stamps see page 59, and *Plate XXIV.*

In 1553 "Mydell Rayssen" possessed "iij grete belles & one Santus bell."†

RASEN MIDDLE DRAX.

In 1553 "Myddl Rayson Rackes" possessed "iij gret belles & one sanctus bell."‡

The church of S. Paul (in which those bells hung), generally known as "the Low Church," was taken down about the year 1861, and its bells (three in number) sold.

RASEN WEST.

All Saints. 3 Bells.

1. PRAYSE YE THE LORDE 1591 N B J C.

---

* Peacock's *Ch. Furn.* p. 124. † *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off. ‡ Ib. 507, P. R. Off.

2. GOD SAVE HIS CHURCH J BEECH R CHATTERTON WARDENS 1710.

3. [▽ 119] Sc̄a Maria [□ 110] Ora [□ 110] Pro [▽ 119] Nobis

For Stamps see *Plates XVIII.* and *XVI.*

In 1553 "West reason" possessed "iij gret belles j Sauntus bell."*

In 1556 the churchwardens reported that "ij hand bells," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, were broken and sold.†

From time immemorial a small piece of land had been in the hands of the parish authorities here called "Ding-Dong piece," and at the enclosure an acre and a half was conveyed to the Rector and Churchwardens in accordance with the original grant, on condition that one of the church bells should be rung every night during the winter months. The name of the donor is unknown.

RAUCEBY.

S. Peter. 4 Bells.

1. HV BADGE GAVE TO THIS BEL TEN L 1619.
(Diam. 31½ in.)

2. IESVS BE OVR SPEDE 1621 [▽ 156.]
(Diam. 34½ in.)

3. [+ 2] IOHN PATTISON IOHN FLETCHER CW TOBIAS NORRIS CAST ME 1684.
(Diam. 39 in.)

4. THŌ SPENCER : VIC̄ : JOSEPH : WILLKINSON : WILL : THVRLBY : HC WARDEN : HENRY : PENN : FOVNDER 1723.
(Diam. 42 in. A large piece broken off rim.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXIII.* and page 52.

---

* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur* p. 125.

The Rev. Thomas Spencer (see 4th bell) was instituted in 1710: he died or vacated in 1729.

RAVENDALE EAST.

S. Martin. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 18 in.)

In 1553 there were here "ij gret bells."* Their present poor representative belonged to the old church, which was rebuilt in 1857.

RAVENDALE WEST.

The ancient church here, which has long been in ruins, possessed, in 1553, "ij greyt belles."†

REDBOURNE.

S. Andrew. 6 Bells.

1, 5. Blank.

(Diams. 26½, 34½ in.)

2, 4. 1774.

(Diams. 27½, 30½ in.)

3. HENRY HARRISON OF BARROW BELLFOUNDER 1774.

(Diam. 29½ in.)

6. THIS PEAL OF BELLS WAS RECAST AT THE EXPENCE OF THE REV^D ROB^T CARTER ESQ^R 1774.

(Diam. 36½ in.)

In 1553 there were "iij greatt belles & j sanctus bell."‡

The 5th and 6th bells of the present ring are without canons.

---

* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

† Ib. 507, P. R. Off.

‡ *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{5}\frac{3}{3}$ P. R. Off.

The Rev. Robert Carter—who died and was buried here—was styled "Esquire" because he was the chief landowner in the parish. In the memorial introduction to Grosart's Edition of Christopher Harvey's Poems* (p. 29) we read, "In 1653 he was appointed a trustee . . . . by the designation of Christopher Harvey Esquire, it having been not then unusual to designate well-born clergymen as 'Esquire,' as witness the burial entry of George Herbert."

REEPHAM.

SS. Peter and Paul. 1 Bell.

1. [+ 120] tiS emoN in̄C ūtcidnB [▽ 119.]

For Stamps see *Plate XVIII.*

This is an instance of misplacement of letters on the mould (which cannot be shewn in type), by some one who did not remember the reversing of letters in the casting.

RESTON NORTH.

S. Edith. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 18 in.)

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "a sacring bell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's reign, had passed into the hands of "Sr Rob dyon" the late vicar, but what had become of it they did not know.†

RESTON SOUTH.

S. Edith. 1 Bell.

1. 1772.
(Diam. 18 in.)

---

* For private circulation, 1874.

† Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 126.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "a sacring bell," which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, was "broken and defacid anno pm̃o Elizab̄th."*

The ancient church here had three bells: there is no record of what became of them.

REVESBY.

S. Lawrence. 1 Bell.

1. JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON FOUNDER 1813.
(Diam. 24 in.)

There are frames here for four bells.

RIBY.

S. Edmund. 3 Bells.

1. JHESVS BE OVR SPEDE 1607.
(Diam. 30 in.)
2. THIS PEAL REPAIRED 1811. THE BISHOP GAVE 50 POUNDS.
(Diam. 32½ in.)
3. [+ 147] Od CBA hgtes ZRQ
(Diam. 37 in.)

For Stamp see page 120.

All these bells have had the canons cut off. The Bishop referred to on the 2nd bell was the Right Rev. George Pretyman Tomline, Bishop of Lincoln (1787-1820). Bishop Pretyman succeeded to the name and large property of Marmaduke Tomline, Esq., who died at Riby Grove, on the 22nd June, 1803. See under Tetney for an anecdote relating to him and a church bell.

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 127.

RIGSBY.

S. JAMES. 1 BELL.

1. [+ 56] a u e m a r i a
(Diam. 13 in.)

For Stamp see *Plate VII.*

RIPPINGALE.

S. ANDREW. 5 BELLS.

1, 4. 1830.
(Diams. 32, 39 in.)

2. WM DOBSON FOUNDER 1830.
(Diam. 34 in.)

3. LONG LIVE WILLIAM THE FOURTH.
(Diam. 39 in.)

5. WM DOBSON DOWNHAM NORFOLK FOUNDER 1830.
(Diam. 43 in.)

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "a litell bell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been "sold to Johnne Tounesend of haconbie tincker anno 1560" and was broken; that "two handbelles" had been sold and broken in pieces; and that "a litle bell" yet remained.*

Prior to 1830 there were three bells only, which are described in a memorandum belonging to the Parish, dated 3rd July, 1822, thus:—

> Three Bells with their frames in Belfry of Tower.
> The 1st or least Bell being 3 feet in diameter with the Inscription Samuel Orr.
> The 2nd Bell 3 ft. 3 in.; Diamr with the Inscription Thomas Bacon in 1620.
> The 3rd Bell 3 ft. 6 in. Diameter with the Inscription Thomas Norris made me in 1672.

---

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* pp. 127, 129.

In 1830 those three bells were sent to the founder, and the present ring of five substituted. That was done by means of a legacy of £200 left for the purpose by Mr. Richard Casswell. Mr. Casswell was a native of Rippingale, but had removed to the adjoining parish of Morton, where he was in business as a maltster. He was an amateur musician and artist: he played the violin in the church choir when at Morton, and painted several pictures of sacred subjects on the walls of Rippingale and other neighbouring churches. He died at Morton in 1829, at the age of 82 years, and was buried at Rippingale on the 16th of August in that year.

In the Churchwardens' Account Book the following entries occur relative to the new bells and Mr. Casswell's legacy:—

1830.	Dec. 7. Paid Mr Westby of Surfleet in part for the Bellframes	51 . 10 . 0
1831.	Dec. 16. Paid Mr Westby in full for hanging the Bells	50 . 0 . 0
1831.	Dec. 16. Paid Mr Wilkinson (the Attorney) for Legacy duty on the Bells	16 . 4 . 11*

RISBY.

In the ancient church here dedicated to S. Bartholomew, but now destroyed, there were, in 1553, "ij greatt bells."†

RISEHOLM.

S. Mary. 1 Bell.

This new church has one small modern bell.

---

* Communicated by the Rev. W. Cooper, R.D.

† *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$ P. R. Off.

ROPSLEY.

S. PETER. 2 BELLS.

1. I sweetly toling men do call to taste on meats that feeds the soble [□ 113] 1620.
(Diam. 31 in.)
2. [+ 2] THOMAS NORRIS MADE MEE 1664.
(Diam. 33 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XVI.* and page 52.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "ij handbells" and "one sacringe bell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's reign, had been sold.*

ROTHWELL.

S. MARY. 3 BELLS.

1. [+ 116] GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH 1613 [□ 113.]
(Diam. 30 in.)
2. [+ 64] Sc̄ Iohīes Ora Pro Nobis.
(Diam. 34½ in.; cracked.)
3. SUM ROSA PULSAAT MUNDI MARIA VOCATA C AND G MEARS LONDON MDCCCXLIX
(Diam. 37½ in.)

For Stamps see page 107 and *Plates XVI.* and *VIII.*

In 1553 Rothwell possessed "iij greatt belles & j sanctus bell."† Of those the present 2nd is the only one remaining. The inscription on the 3rd is a sorry attempt to reproduce the ancient one, which was:—

Sum Rosa Pulsata Mundi Maria Vocata.

---

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 130.

† *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

ROUGHTON.

S. Mary. 1 Bell.

1. 1694.
(Diam. 20 in.)

In 1553 "Roughtone" possessed "iij gret bells & a sanctus bell."*

ROWSTON.

S. Clement. 2 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. [+ 123] S · · · O P N
(Diam. 18 in.)

2. SCS : CLEMENS
(Diam. 20 in.)

Priest's Bell:—

Blank.
(Diam. 12 in.)

For Stamp see page 111.

The two bells are of the same date: very difficult of access, and very dirty. The dedication of the 1st is not deciphered, but the letters are the same as those on the 1st bell at Wispington. O P N stands for *Ora Pro Nobis.*

The Priest's Bell (very much cracked) is unhung and on the floor of the tower.

ROXBY-CUM-RISBY.

S. Mary. 3 Bells.

1. VENITE EXULTEMUS DOMINO 1709 [□ 168.]
(Diam. 27 in.)

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

2. GLORIA IN ALTISSIMIS DEO 1709 [▫ 168.]
(Diam. 30 in.)

3. [▽ 137] SCĒ MIKAEL
(Diam. 33 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXIV. and XX.*, and for a specimen of the letters on the 3rd bell see figure 190, *Plate XXVII.*

In 1553 there were here "iij greyt bells one santus bell."*

RUCKLAND.

S. Olave. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 12 in.)

RUSKINGTON.

All Saints. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 106] GOD ·:· SAVE ·:· THE ·:· CHVRCH ·:· OVR ·:· QVEENE ·:· AND ·:· REALME [▽ 108.]
(Diam. 36 in.)

2. [+ 135] IHS BE MI SPED CB ▫ WW IS 1594 [or 1574] [▫ 113.]
(Diam. 38½ in.)

3. Campana Sacra Fiat Trinitate Beata Hec 1593 [▽ 108 ▫ 107 O 105.] —41
(Diam. 42 in.; cracked.)

For Stamps see *Plate XV.* page 116, and *Plate XVI.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "ij handbells" which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had gone "wee knowe not howe.†

---

* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods Linc.* $\frac{3}{33}$, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 130.

When the spire fell in 1618 tradition affirms that the bells were cast over the churchyard wall into a contiguous brook.

The tenor is of the same date, and bears some of the same stamps as the tenor of the ring of eight at Lincoln Cathedral: the same circular stamp with the founders' names was also upon some of the Lady Bells formerly hanging there. This fine bell is unfortunately obliged to be recast, it being cracked.

SALEBY.

S. MARGARET. 2 BELLS.

1, 2. MEARS FOUNDER LONDON.
(Diams. 18, 20 in.)

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "a brasier had in exchange one handbell" which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time.*

The present bells were cast about thirty years ago. According to a note made by the late Vicar of the parish—the Rev. Felix Laurent—on 28th March, 1856,† an ancient bell formerly here bore the inscription:—

Sancta Maria Ora Pro Nobis
Philippus Gray M mere ferit.

Here are evidently some errors: perhaps the M is a mistake and the inscription "me refecit," or, more probably, the true reading was "me fieri fecit."

SALMONBY.

S. MARGARET. 1 BELL.

1. 1842.
(Diam. 23 in.)

---

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 131. † Communicated to me by the Rev. J. J. Raven, D.D.

In 1552, when an Inventory of the Church Goods belonging to this parish was taken, the following entries were made descriptive of the bells and their value :—

Inp'mis twoo belles in the steple & one Sanctus bell upßsed to ..... xls.
It' ij handebells & one pyxe ..... xxiij*d.**

SALTFLEETBY ALL SAINTS.

ALL SAINTS. 5 BELLS.

1, 2, 3, 4. JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON FOUNDER 1799.
5. REV. GEORGE STEPHENSON RECTOR : REV. RICHARD KILVINGTON CURATE JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON FOUNDER LARGEY GACE HODGSON & BENJAMIN CURTIS Church Wardens 1799.

On bell-frame is :—L G H + Chu^h^ Warden 1799.

SALTFLEETBY S. CLEMENT.

S. CLEMENT. 3 BELLS.

1. DANIEL HEDDERLY CAST ME IN 1727.
(Diam. 22½ in.)

2. [+47] DOMINVS [□48] IOHANNES [□48] DE [□48] HORSYCTON [□48] ME [□48] FECIT [□48] FIERI
(Diam. 24¼ in.)

3. [+47] HEC : CAMPANA : PIE : CAVSA : SIT : FACTA : MARIE
(Diam. 27½ in.)

---

* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 78, P. R. Off.

For Stamps see *Plate VI.*

These are very light bells. The canons have been cut off the 2nd and 3rd, the inscriptions on which are in beautiful small gothic capitals like those on others bearing the same cross and stop.

SALTFLEETBY S. PETER [Ancient].

S. Peter. 2 Bells.

1. [+ 134 ▽ 127] IN [□ 107] AMORE [□ 107] SCA [□ 107] MARIA [□ 107.]
(Diam. 31 in.; cracked.)

2. [□ 35] PURA [□ 38] PUDICA [□ 38] PIA [□ 38] MISERIS [□ 38] MI~SERERE [□ 38] MARIA
(Diam. 34 in.)

For Stamps see pages 115, and 114, *Plates XV.* and *V.*

The above two bells still hang in the tower of the ancient church, which stands in the parish churchyard, and serves as a cemetery chapel. There was a small Priest's bell which is removed to the new parish church, consecrated on 31st July, 1878.

These two inscriptions are both quite peculiar in character. The 1st has the well known rose and shield so often found together (p. 114) but the cross and letters are quite different from what are usually associated with them. The letters are foliated in a somewhat coarse fashion, as is also the cross. The 2nd has no initial cross but in its place a trade mark which I have not met with elsewhere. The letters are good bold plain gothic capitals. The legend [which is also upon a bell at Breaston, Derbyshire, probably cast by John of Stafford] is nearly the same as that surrounding the seal of St. Mary's Abbey, at York: *Virgo* pudica, &c. [J. T. F.]

There is a tradition, unsupported by any evidence, that the bells here were taken from some neighbouring church.

The second bell was cracked by a too enthusiastic farm servant, who, on the occasion of his master's marriage, thought to help the ringing by using a blacksmith's hammer on the bells.

SALTFLEETBY S. PETER [New].

S. Peter. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 12 in.)

This small bell was the Priest's bell at the ancient church of S. Peter.

SAPPERTON.

S. Nicolas. 1 Bell.

1. 1825.

(Diam. 25 in.)

SAUSTHORPE.

S. Andrew. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 54] ECCE ANCILLA DOMINI

(Diam. 23½ in.)

2. [+ 54] AVE MARI GRACIA PLENA

(Diam. 26 in.)

3. [□42 □42 □42 □42 □42 □42 □42 □42 □42 □42 □42]

(Diam. 29 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates VII. and VI.*

In 1552 the bells belonging to this church were thus entered and valued in an Inventory of Church Goods then taken:—

It' iij small Bells wyth a littyll bell & ij handbells iiij^{li}*

---

* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 78, P. R. Off.

The three small bells still remain, but the little, or sanctus, bell has gone.

SAXBY ALL SAINTS.

ALL SAINTS. 3 BELLS.

1. IHESVS BE OVR SPEED 1612.
(Diam. 26 in.)
2. [+ 165] SOLI DEO GLORIA R : I. T : H. W : S. 1662.
(Diam. 31 in.)
3. [+ 165] 1681 W S.
(Diam. 33 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXIV.*, and for specimens of the letters on the 1st bell see figs. 187 and 188 on *Plate XXVII.*

SAXBY [WITH FIRSBY].

S. HELEN. 1 BELL.

Here is a small bell without inscription or date.

SAXILBY.

S. BOTOLPH. 4 BELLS.

1. R WOOD SEND EDGOOD HELP CW W COSIN T HIRD D H FOV 175.
(Diam. 27½ in.)
2. [+ 121] Scs Botulphus Sit Nomen Dni Bndictum.
(Diam. 37½ in.)
3. [□ 107 + 116] A [▽ 108] B
(Diam. 39 in.; cracked.)

4. REV. MR JEPSON VICAR I TO THE CHURCH THE LIVING CALL AND TO THE GRAVE DO SUMMON ALL

HENRY WOODWARD } Church Wardens.
GERVAS WOODEND }

JAMES HARRISON OF BARROW FOUNDER 1788.

(Diam. 44¼ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XVIII.* and *XV.*, and page 107.

The first reading of the inscription on the 1st bell (which is much smaller than the others, but is treated as one of the ring) naturally is "R Wood sended good help," that is to the expense of casting the bell. I hope I am not robbing him of his due if I suggest the correct reading to be

R. Woodend, Ed. Godhelp, C.W.

for Gervase Woodend was churchwarden here in 1788, and the name of Godhelp is found in the Parish Register.

The initials D.H. are those of Daniel Hedderly the founder.

For a local rhyme about these bells see under Stow.

The Rev. George Jepson was probably a non-resident vicar: he signed the Register occasionally between 1777 and 1785: he probably held the living until 1789, when the Rev. Thomas Rees signs, and continues to do so for some time.

505 SAXILBY.

S. ANDREW. 1 BELL.

1. J. TAYLOR & Co. FOUNDERS 1879.

(Diam. 14 in.)

506 SCAMBLESBY.

S. MARTIN. 1 BELL.

In 1553 there were here "j sanct' bell ij great bells" which are now poorly represented by a small bell, in a turret, about twelve inches in diameter.

SCAMPTON.

S. John Baptist. 3 Bells.

1. [+47] SVM ROSA [□48] POL [□48] SATA [□48] MVNDI [□48] MARIA [□48] VOCATA [□48.]
2. [+47] IOH [□48] BAP TIST [□48] CAMPANA [□48] MANEAT [□48] HEC [□48] VNDI OVI [□48] SANA [□46]
3. [+116] IHESVS BE OVR SPEDE [□113] 1582.

[Crown ornament □118.]

(Diam. 30 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate VI.* page 107, *Plate XVI.* and page 108.

The 1st and 2nd bells are uniform in character; the letters are small, and in the word *undique* the d and q are inverted and i substituted for e so that the word looks like *unqnidui*. These inscriptions are given, but incorrectly, in the "*History of Scampton*" by the late Archdeacon Illingworth [J. T. F.]. A similar bell hangs at Heapham (the 1st).

SCARLE NORTH.

All Saints. 3 Bells.

1. [+117] IHESVS BE OVR SPEED [□113] 1616.

(Diam. 26 in.)

2. IESUS BE MY SPEED 1733.

(Diam. 30 in.)

3. SOLY DEO GLORIA 1727.

(Diam. 32 in.)

For Stamps see page 108 and *Plate XVI.*

SCARTHO.

S. Giles. 2 Bells.

1. [+ 106] GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH 1634.
(Diam. 30 in.)
2. HENRY PENN FUSORE 1715.
(Diam. 32½ in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XV.*

In 1553 there were here "ij great bells one sanctus bell."*

There is a tradition that one bell was sold from hence, in 1810, preserved in the following rhyme:—

Poor Scartho people
Sold their bell to repair the steeple.

If this be true it was probably the old sanctus bell that was then sold, and so the people here robbed their belfry much less than many of their neighbours, whose large bells have disappeared.

SCAWBY.

S. Hybald. 3 Bells.

1. 1628.
(Diam. 28 in.)
2. DANIEL HEADERLY MADE ME IN 1741.
(Diam. 31½ in.)
3. IHC IOHANNES [: 87] DE [: 87] [+ 86] STAFFORDE [: 87] MARIA FECIT [: 87] ME
(Diam. 34 in.)

For Stamps see page 86.

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

In 1553 "Scalbye" possessed "iij greatt bells j sanctus bell."* One of those bells (the present 3rd) still remains.

SCOPWICK.

HOLY CROSS. 3 BELLS.

1. 0071 [○ 7.]
(Diam. 31 in.)
2. JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER WILLIAM SEWELL CHURCHWARDEN.
(Diam. 36 in.)
3. Missus De Celis Habio Nomen Gabrielis [+ 121 ▽ 119.]
(Diam. 39 in.)

For Stamps see page 59 and *Plate XVIII.*

The date on the 1st bell is reversed, and the inscription on the 3rd is blundered.

SCOTHORNE.

S. GERMAN. 3 BELLS.

1. [□ 81 □ 84 □ 81 □ 82.]
(Diam. 34 in.)
2. [+ 111 ▽ 139] IHS MARIA
(Diam. 36 in.)
3. [+ 162] Memento Mori WS HW 1683.
(Diam. 39 in.; cracked.)

For Stamps see *Plates XIV.*, *XVI.*, *XX.*, and *XXIV.*

A small bell—perhaps the ancient sanctus bell—which was found some years ago in the ringing chamber, was hung in the porch of the

* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{33}$, P. R. Off.

school in the year 1853; it has no inscription, and is 12 inches in diameter.

There is an ancient Account Book belonging to the parish, but the entries relating to the bells are very meagre:—

1591.	Itm̃ to Robt Chapman Thomas Downing for a bell spoke	xx*d.*
	Itm̃ to John Richardson for a peece of wood toward the bell yoke.....	viij*d.*
	Itm̃ for bell Irons	vj*s.* viij*d.*

A small headstone in the churchyard here has the following—now mostly illegible:—

Alas poor John
Is dead and gone
Who often toll'd the Bell
And with a spade
Dug many a grave
And said Amen full well.
1739.

In Scothorn Parish Register, under the year 1739, is the following entry and note, doubtless referring to "poor John":—

John Blackburn was buried Jany 9th 1739-40. He had serv'd the office of Parish Clerk near 50 years & had been a decent & faithful servant to nine preceeding Vicars at this Parish Church. In Gratitude to the Memory of him this short account is given by the present Vicar.

V. Drake.

Exoriantur usq. qui ornent hanc Ecclesiam.*

---

* Kindly communicated by the present Vicar.

SCOTTER.

S. PETER. 4 BELLS.

1. CONCORDIA SIT VOBISCVM · 1692.

(Diam. 29 in.)

2. FLOREAT ECCLESIA ANGLICANA 1692.

(Diam. 32 in.)

3. VIVANT REX ET REGINA CVIL ET MARIA 1692.

(Diam. 35 in.)

4. JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON FOUNDER. HENRY JOHN WOLLASTON M.A. RECTOR. WILLIAM FOSTER & THOMAS MOULDS CHURCHWARDENS 1832.

(Diam. 39 in.)

The first three bells were cast at Nottingham.

In 1553 there were "ij great belles j sanc^ts bell."*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "one handbell," which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, "was taken out of ōr church three yeare agoo . . . by whome wee know not."†

The ring was subsequently increased to three bells.

From the following entry in the Parish Register we learn that one of the bells was recast in 1673:—

> Memorandum that the second Bell was new cast by one Richard Sanders of Brig May the third 1673, and was hung up in the steeple of Scotter on Saturday June 8th 1673.

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 133.

A few years later another bell being damaged, it was determined to cast the three old bells into four new ones. The Parish Register has the following entry:—

Memorandum

That June the 21st 1692 the great Bell was by Wm Markham carelessly Riven by violently striking her with a great Hamer on ye wedding day of Wm Parr and Sarah Moody, the tongue of the sayd Bell being then defective & sent by Joseph Webster ye churchwarden to Gainsburrough.

And the Churchwardens' Book gives the following particulars entered subsequently (between the years 1705 and 1706):—

Memorandum

That at Lady day 1693 Scotter 3 old Bells were cast into 4 new Bells and weigh as follows:—

Old Bells weighed

	c	q'ter	pound
The old Tenure weighed	11	01	02
The old second Bell weighed	07	03	00
The old first or treble Bell	06	02	00
The old Bells weighed in tot	25	03	00

The foure new bells weighs as follow

	c	q'ters	pounds
The new Tenure weighs	09	03	12
The new third Bell weighs	07	03	00
The new second Bell weighs	06	01	08
The new Treble weighs	04	02	00
The 4 new bells weighs in Tot.	28	01	20

	c	q'ters	li
The 4 new Bells now weigh more than the 3 old Bells did weigh by	2	02	20

Account of them Taken ꝑ me

Robt Belton.

The tenor bell was recast again in 1832 as the Vestry Book tells, and as the inscription on the bell itself testifies. The Churchwardens' Accounts charge :—

1832.	Nov. Carrying Old Bell to Barton	£1 . 1 . 0
	Fetching New Bell from Barton	1 . 1 . 0
	Bell-ropes	1 . 5 . 0
	Gave to Ringers	0 . 5 . 0

In 1880 the bells were rehung in a new frame (not recast as stated in the church books) by Messrs. Taylor at the cost of £102 12s.*

The first letters of the inscriptions on the 1st and 2nd bells are of the kind engraved on p. 123, figs. 149, and 150, the other letters are smaller gothic.

The following lines are painted, in red and black letters, on the south wall of the Tower over the belfry door:—

Yow ringers All
who heare doe fall
And doe cast over
a bell doe for feit
to the Clarke theirfore
A Groute I doe yow
tell & if yow
thinck it be to
little & beare
A valliant minde
ymore yow give
vnto him then
yow prove to him
more kinde.

* I am much indebted to the Rev. Reginald H. C. Fitz-Herbert for (with the Rector's kind permission) searching on my behalf a chest full of disarranged Papers for the information given above.

These are (says The Rev. J. T. Fowler, who copied them some years ago) the earliest ringers' rhymes I have met with.

The Rev. Henry John Wollaston (4th Bell), was of Sidney College, Cambridge; B.A., 1792; M.A. 1795; was sometime Rector of Paston, Northants. He was collated to Scotter in 1803, died 27th October, 1833, aged 63 years, and was buried here.

SCOTTON.

S. Genewys. 3 Bells.

1. JESVS BE MY SPEED 1748.
(Diam. 34 in; cracked.)
2. [▽ 27 + 28 ▽ 29] In Multis Annis Resonet Campana Iohannis
(Diam. 38½ in.)
3. JESVS BE OVR SPEED. MAY 2. 1623.
R : IF AC
(Diam. 40 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate III.*

In 1553 there were here "iij greatt belles j santus bell."*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "one handbell," belonging to the church in Queen Mary's time, had been broken in pieces.†

The only ancient bell remaining—the 2nd—is of a very common type, especially in the south of England. The capital letters are crowned.

There is a tradition that the treble bell was cracked on the occasion of a three days' ringing in honour of the only visit ever paid to the parish by Sir John Frederick, a former Lord of the Manor. He was on his way from his house at Burwood Park, Surrey, to take the command of the 3rd Surrey Regiment of Militia, then quartered at Hull, during the Peninsular War.

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 135.

515 SCRAFIELD [CUM HAMMERINGHAM].

The ancient church of S. Michael, of which no traces now remain, possessed in 1552 "ij Bells," which were valued at "xls."*

516 SCREDINGTON.

S. ANDREW. 2 BELLS.

1. [+ 106] GOD SAVE OVR QVEEИE 1601 [□ 113.]
(Diam. 24 in.)
2. R. ATTEWELL 1672.
(Diam. 26 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XV.* and *XVI.*

The rent of six acres of land goes to the parish clerk, part of whose duty it is to ring the bells.

517 SCREMBY.

SS. PETER AND PAUL. 4 BELLS.

1. IESVS BE OVR SPEED 1740.
(Diam. 21¾ in.)
2. WILLIAM YOVNGER C : W. 1739.
(Diam. 24 in.)
3. DANIEL HEDDERLY MADE VS ALL IN 1740.
(Diam. 25½ in.)
4. DANIEL HEDDERLY MADE VS ALL 1740.
(Diam. 27¾ in.)

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 78, P. R. Off.

SCRIVELSBY.

S. Benedict. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 8 in.)

In 1553 "Scrylbye," in Gartree Wapentake, possessed "ij bellis in the steple and a sanct' bell,"* which are now represented by, probably, the smallest church bell in the county, which is thus amusingly referred to by the Rector, who, I hope, will forgive me for quoting his description :—

> "'Story? God bless you! I have none to tell, Sir!' about the Bells of Scrivelsby. We have only one, and that one something bigger than a sheep bell—not quite so good as the dinner bell of one's house. This one bell does duty for everything. It rings us into church; it tolls us to our grave; and it attempts to make a lively sound to cheer us at our matrimonial ventures . . . It is about as unpretending a bell as any in the county, and if it could smile it doubtless would do so now to think of any one caring to know anything about it."

SEARBY.

S. Nicolas. 5 Bells.

1. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1865.

And incised on waist:—

TE DEUM LAUDAMUS.

(Diam. 21½ in.)

2. 1811.

(Diam. 23 in.)

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

3. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1865.
And incised on waist :—
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO.
(Diam. 24 in.)

4. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1856.
(Diam. 25½ in.)

5. [+ 116] GOD ƧAVE HIƧ CHVRCH 1609.
(Diam. 27½ in. ; note E flat.)

For Stamp see page 107.

When the ancient church here was allowed to go to ruin, and the chancel was bricked up at the west end so as to be available for Divine Service, the then bells were fixed in a frame in the churchyard.

Prior to the year 1865 there were only three bells: the present 4th (the gift—in the year 1856—of the late Rev. Wm. Wright, who was born in the adjoining parish of Somerby) was then the 2nd. The present ring was completed in 1865, by the gift to the church of the 1st and 3rd by the present Vicar—the Rev. T. J. M. Townsend—who is a great lover of bells and bellringing.

SEDGEBROOKE.

S. Laurence. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. GOD SAVE HIS CHURCH 1724.

2. [□ 107] [▽ 127] personet hec celis dulcissima vox gabrielis

3. [□ 107] [▽ 127] *Inscription erased.*

Priest's Bell :—
Blank.

For Stamps see *Plate XV.* and page 114.

The inscription on the 3rd bell was erased on the mould apparently by the finger while it was soft, and so previous to the casting of the bell: there are traces of letters like those on the 2nd bell.

SEMPERINGHAM.

S. Andrew. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 90] BE [+ 90] NOT [+ 90] OVER BASIE [□ 91]
(Diam. 27 in.)
2. sancte gabriel ora pro nobis [▽ 124.]
(Diam. 32 in.)
3. THO ESSINGTON C W 1719.
(Diam. 36 in.)

For Stamps see pages 87 and 111. The letter U (1st bell) is inverted.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "a handbell," which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold and defaced.*

522 SIBSEY.

S. Margaret. 8 Bells.

1. JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON FOUNDER 1815.
(Diam. 30 in.)
2, 7. Blank.
(Diams. 31, 42 in.)
3. HENRY HARRISON FOUNDER 1770.
(Diam. 33 in.)
4, 5. J. BRIANT AND J. CABOURN HERTFORD FECIT 1801 WM POCKINGTON C. W.
[Diams. 37¼, 38 in.]
6. JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER 1822 THO. MAWER C.W.
(Diam. 38 in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 136.

8. JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON UPON HUMBER FOUNDER 1815.

(Diam. 48 in.)

In 1553 "Sybseye" possessed "iij gret belles & a santus bell."*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that the "handbels and sacryng bels," belonging to this church in Queen Mary's time, had gone "we know not how."†

The Parish Register for 1659 has an entry of the burial of T. Symond, "belman."

The ancient Churchwardens' Accounts have one or two notices of the bells:—

1698.	Paid for help at the church when the bells were mended	0	2	0
	Paid for Bell-ropes	1	0	0
1699.	Given to the Ringers on 5th Novr	0	10	0

Prior to 1770 there were five bells only. At a Vestry meeting held on the 15th February in that year, it was resolved that all the five bells should be recast by Henry Harrison of Barrow: accordingly, on the same day, the following agreement was drawn up:—

> MEMORANDUM. A contract made the 15th day of Feb. A.D. 1770 between Henry Harrison of Barrow in the county of Lincoln Bell-founder on the one part, and Thomas Gilbert Churchwarden of Sibsey in the county aforesaid on the other. The aforesaid Henry Harrison on his part has covenanted and agreed to recast the Bells and to give them a full true and tunable sound at the rate of 24*s.* per cwt. and also that he shall provide new wheels, irons, brasses, and all other necessary materials (except the great frame) for the sum of £28—and that he will take them at Hull and deliver them again when recast, and that he will completely hang the same at

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{54}$, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 137.

his own proper charge. And provided the said Bells return heavier when recast than before, for every pound heavier the parish is to pay to the said Henry Harrison after the rate of £6 per cwt., to the weight of two hundred; but if they shall exceed two hundred, for every pound so exceeding the parish shall pay after the rate of £3 per cwt. But if the said Bells shall prove deficient of their old weight, for every lb. wanting he the said Henry Harrison shall pay to the parish aforesaid nine pence for every such lb. wanting, to the weight of two hundred, but if they be deficient above two hundreds, for every lb. so deficient he shall pay eighteenpence.

And that the said Henry Harrison shall deliver the Bells aforesaid within 3 months after their arrival there; and likewise that the said Henry Harrison shall make good all damages that the said Bells may sustain for the space of a year and a day after they are completely hung.

Also Thomas Gilbert on the other part doth agree for himself and for his successors the churchwardens of Sibsey aforesaid, in behalf of the parish, that he or they shall pay or cause to be paid at 3 payments, namely one half of the sum upon completion of hanging the bells, the other half at two equal payments, one payment at the expiration of one year, and the other at the expiration of two years.

It was further agreed that the churchwardens aforesaid shall deliver the Bells at Hull and bring them back again from thence at the expense of the parish.

In witness thereof we have hereunto set our hands the day and year before written.

Henry Harrison.
Thomas Gilbert.

Witnessed by
Richard Plant Jr.

From an entry, made on the 24th September, 1770, we learn that the contract was concluded: the bells were completed and hung by Henry Harrison, and the following record of their weights entered in the Vestry Book:—

1st	weighed	6	cwt.	0	qr.	13	lbs.
2nd	,,	3	,,	3	,,	14	,,
3rd	,,	7	,,	2	,,	10	,,
4	,,	8	,,	2	,,	20	,,
5	,,	10	,,	2	,,	16½	,,

On the 5th September in the following year (1771) we find a resolution "that our Churchwarden Mr. Henry Baxter should agree with proper workmen to make us a set of new Bellframes of the Heart of Oak." This is curious as being only a year after the new bells had been hung.

The ring was increased by "a new Treble Bell to complete the number of six" in accordance with a resolution of the majority—for the vote was not unanimous—of a Vestry held on the 8th April, 1773.

At that time there was much change ringing here, as is testified by a peal board still remaining, dated 10th March, 1776.

On 24th February, 1814, a Vestry Meeting was summoned "to consult about augmenting the number of Church Bells," and it was agreed that a new treble bell and a new tenor bell should be procured to complete a ring of eight; and that Mr. James Harrison should be employed to cast and hang them. These bells, which arrived in 1816, cost with the rehanging of the whole ring, about £300, which was raised by private subscription amongst the ringers and their friends. These were so enthusiastic that the idea was entertained of having two more bells to make a grand ring of ten, but the death of Mr. Miller, an influential ringer, caused it to be given up. The Sibsey people are still great ringers: no less than seven members of one family—the Messrs. Mawer—are amongst the best; Mr. Mawer, Sen., has been (1879) ringing for nearly sixty years, and Mr. Clapham, now at the age of eighty-four, for even a longer period.*

There is a tradition amongst the inhabitants of Stickford that the

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* I am much indebted to the Rev. F. Bezant, the Vicar of Sibsey, for the above extracts.

Sibsey people have their bells; that once upon a time the Stickford bells were sent away for repair, dropped carelessly in the water or dyke by the way side and lost; that some time afterwards they were discovered, taken up out of the mud, and hung in Sibsey church tower. There is no evidence whatever in support of such an act of dishonesty.

SIX HILLS.

All Saints. 4 Bells.

1. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON 1869.
(Diam. 19 in.; not used.)
2. + In Honor Om Sanctrm
(Diam. 31 in.)
3. + SALVS : THOMAS
(Diam. 33 in.)
4. RECAST AT BARTON 1821, JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER.
(Diam. 37 in.)

The bells are so difficult of access that I am unable to give the initial crosses on the 2nd and 3rd.

Owing to an unfortunate dispute, the details relating to which need not be detailed or commented on here, the ancient tower of this church was demolished a few years ago, and the bells stowed away in a barn, and in danger, (it was feared,) of being lost to the parish. "To this loss, however, the Rev. Charles A. Wilkinson (the then Vicar) could not conscientiously consent, and noble efforts were immediately made by him to secure the re-erection of the tower, and rehanging of the bells, in which he would certainly have succeeded by the aid of numerous sympathizing friends in the diocese, and beyond it, when, through the interposition of a mutual friend, all further action on his part was rendered unnecessary by a guarantee from that friend for the erection of the tower without any extraneous aid."*

* *Report of Lincoln Diocesan Arch. Soc.* for 1875.

The bells are so awkwardly fixed in this new tower that their inscriptions can with great difficulty be approached. Those as given above are the best readings that can be obtained.

The first bell was probably intended for a Priest's bell: there is a still smaller bell—only about 4 inches in diameter—fixed with the others by the late Vicar, and used by him, chiefly, to attract the notice of the sexton when the time for service had arrived.

SKEGNESS.

S. Clement. 1 Bell.

[▽ 11.]

1. [+ 14] Dulcis Sisto Melis Vocor Campana Michaelis

(Diam. $40\frac{3}{4}$ in.)

For Stamp see *Plate II.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "one sacring bell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been broken and defaced.*

"Two other bells formerly hung in the tower. The tradition respecting the loss of one of them is altogether legendary; the account given of the fate of the other is probably correct: viz.: that being cracked it was taken down by the churchwardens and sold, and the produce of it expended at a convivial meeting."†

That was bad, but worse was said of Dunkeld:—

"Was there e'er sic a parish—a parish—a parish,
Was there e'er sic a parish as little Dunkell,
Where they sticket the minister, hanged the precentor
Dang down the steeple, and drunk the bell."

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 137. † Oldfield's *Wainfleet*, p. 251.

SKEGNESS.

The new church of S. Clement has at present only a very small bell.

SKELLINGTHORPE.

S. Lawrence. 5 Bells.

1—4. + J. TAYLOR & SON FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1855.

(Diams. 28, 29, 30, 31 in.)

5. JOHN TAYLOR & SON FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH.

(Diam. 32 in.)

Mr. Ussher, who kindly visited these bells for me, says "the cleanest and best appointed belfry I have ever been in."

There are some excellent modern Belfry Rules hanging up.

The Ringers have a bequest of £1. per annum from the late Mr. Henry Stone.

SKENDLEBY.

S. Peter. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1, 2. J. TAYLOR & CO. FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1877.

(Diams. 27, 30¼ in.)

3. [O 19] Sum rosa pulsata mundi catena vocata.

(Diam. 33½ in.)

Priest's Bell:—

Blank.

(Diam. 13 in.)

For Stamp see page 70.

The previous 1st and 2nd bells, recast in 1877, are said not to have

been ancient. A singular feature in the inscription on the tenor is the use of the capital S throughout. The late Sir Gilbert G. Scott made a curious mistake as to the inscription on this bell in his Report on the state of this church. He wrote: "The inscription upon the tenor bell is interesting, and seems to show that this belonged to one of the churches of Mumby: it is as follows:—Sum rosa pulsata Mumbi caterina vocata."

SKIDBROOK [WITH SALTFLEET].

S. BOTOLPH. 3 BELLS.

1. GOD SAVE THE KING LE HW 1630.
2. IESVS BE MY SPEEDE RH TT CH. W. 1675.
3. [▫ 107] SANC TA GEOR GI
[▽ 127.]
H D

For Stamps see *Plate XV.* and page 114.

The churchwardens and parishioners of Skidbrook having, in 1552, sold two of their church bells, were a few years afterwards (in the reign of Philip and Mary) called upon to replace them. This led to the presentation of a Petition to the King and Queen and the Council by Henry Day and Christopher Scupholme, parishioners of "Skydbroke cum Saltflethaven," in the county of Lincoln, for themselves, and in the name of the inhabitants and parishioners. In which Petition they set forth that they (moved by universal talk, and by persons openly preaching against bells and "other lawdable cerimonies" of the church, affirming them to be superstitious and abominable), by common consent, about the 20th of May, 6 Edward VI., sold two bells then in the parish church for £20; which amount, with other money thereto added, they employed in repairing the church of Skidbrook, then sore decayed, and also in scouring and making "of one haven called Saltflethaven then also beinge sore decayed ruinous and in effect warpt upe so w^t sande

that the ffreishe waiteres was not able to have the full course to the See, ne shippes or bootes have eny passage into and ffrome the said haven whiche is nowe Right well amended." The Petitioners go on to say that "the said orators" were then called by Privy Seal that present term before William Barneres, Thomas Myldway, and John Wyseman, Esqrs., their Majesties' Commissioners, to pay the said £20 received for the bells—which were sold by consent of the whole of the parishioners —and also that the orators and the rest of the parishioners were compelled by the Bishop's injunctions to buy back the same bells or others as good at their own costs, they therefore prayed to be discharged from that payment, or else they would be driven to forsake the parish, for they were poor, and not able to bear the said charges.

The prayer of this Petition was granted, for there is an Order of Council, addressed to the three Commissioners, for the discharge of the parishioners without troubling them any further in the matter of the two bells, upon proof shown of the truth of their statements.*

Saltfleet Church was, centuries ago, washed away by the sea. There is an improbable story to the effect that some of its bells have been found at low water mark. This may be an exaggeration of another story that about sixty years ago a fisherman drew up a large bell-clapper in the meshes of his net.

519 SKILLINGTON.

S. James. 5 Bells.

1. MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS LONDON.
TO THE MEMORY OF
CHARLES HUDSON
1866.
(Diam. 27¼ in.)

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* *Land Revenue Records, Church Goods, Linc.*, Bundle 1392, File 81 (2 Papers), P. R. Off.

2. G. MEARS & CO FOUNDERS LONDON.
PRESENTED
TO THE CHURCH OF SKILLINGTON
BY
THE REV. CHARLES HUDSON, VICAR
1864.
(Diam. 28¾ in.)

3, 4, 5. G. MEARS & CO., FOUNDERS, LONDON, 1864.
(Diams. 30, 31¾, 34 in.)

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "one sacring bell & one hand bell," which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold.*

Prior to 1864 there were only three bells, which, when sent to the foundry, were found to weigh 21 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lbs. These were recast in that year, and a fourth (the present 2nd) presented by the Rev. Charles Hudson, who also caused the frames to be arranged for five bells in case of some day being able to add a fifth to the ring, which he much desired. After his disastrous death on the Matterhorn, in 1865, his parishioners and friends subscribed for and added the present treble bell in memoriam.

The weights of the present bells are

1st.	4 cwt.	0 qrs.	4 lbs.	3rd.	4 cwt.	3 qrs.	24 lbs.
2nd.	4 ,,	1 ,,	0 ,,	4th.	5 ,,	3 ,,	0 ,,
				5th.	6 cwt.	3 qrs.	25 lbs.

SKIRBECK.

S. Nicolas. 5 Bells.

1. VOX MEA EST DULCIS MEA SCINTILLANS VULTUS :
THO^S EAYRE CAMPANARIUS 1759.
(Diam. 31 in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 138.

2. ALEXANDER SAMSON VIC : ROBERT BOWCOCK C.W. D.H. FOVNDER 1731.
(Diam. 33 in.)
3. [+2] J. REYNOLDS B LE W SMITH 1684.
(Diam. 35 in.)
4. Blank.
(Diam. 39 in.: canons off.)
5. JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER BARTON. EDWARD HARRISON CHURCHWARDEN 1820.
(Diam. 44 in.)

For Stamp see page 52.

The Rev. Alexander Sampson (2nd bell) came into residence in 1720; he died 28th February, 1735, aged 47 years, and was buried in the Church here.

531 SKIRBECK.

HOLY TRINITY. 1 BELL.

1. GOD SAVE OVR KIINGE 1638.
(Diam. 18 in.)

This small bell, which is placed at the extreme top of the western gable, and was only to be reached by long ladders, has a rather curious tradition attaching to it. It is said to have been given by King Charles the First to the Town Hall at Derby.

Unfortunately the Derby Town Records were destroyed when the Town Hall there was consumed by fire in 1841, so there is no documentary proof of the truth of the tradition, which may have originated only from the loyal inscription found on the bell. However that may be it is well known that the builders of the new hall contracted to have all the old material. Hence the bell fell into their hands, and was sold by them to the builders of Skirbeck Church, which church was consecrated in the year 1848.

SKIRBECK QUARTER.

The Licensed School here has one small bell presented by Mr. Stainbank, bellfounder, London.

SLEAFORD.

S. Denis. 8 Bells and 2 small Bells.

1. THE LORD TO PRAISE MY VOICE I'LL RAISE. T. OSBORN 1796.
(Diam. 31½ in.)
2. NO OFFENCE TO THE CHURCH T. OSBORN 1796.
(Diam. 32 in.)
3. PEACE AND GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD ⁝· T. OSBORN FOUNDER 1796.
(Diam. 34 in.)
4. GOD SAVE KING GEORGE THE THIRD T. OSBORN FECIT 1796.
(Diam. 35⅝ in.)
5. THE REV^D EDWARD WATERSON VICAR 1796 T OSBORN DOWNHAM NORFOLK FOUNDER.
(Diam. 38 in.)
6. WILL^M KIRTON AND GEO ROBINSON CHURCH WARDENS ⁝ THO OSBORN DOWNHAM NORFOLK FECIT 1796.
(Diam. 39½ in.)
7. THESE EIGHT BELLS WERE CAST IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1796 ⁝· T. OSBORN FECIT ⁝⁝·
(Diam. 43 in.)
8. I TO THE CHURCH THE LIVING CALL AND TO THE GRAVE DO SUMMON ALL. THO^S OSBORN FOUNDER DOWNHAM NORFOLK 1796.
(Diam. 49 in.)

Fire Bell: (which hangs in a canopied niche in west front of south aisle.)
Blank.
(Diam. 14 in.)

Butter Bell: (which hangs in south light of the lowest spire window.)
Blank.
(Diam. 13½ in.)

In 1566 the churchwardens of "Sleford Nova" reported that "sacring belles" . . . . "wt suche other trumperie," belonging to the church in Queen Mary's time, "were burned in the markett place of newe sleforthe the xxjth daye of october A° secundo Elizabeth."*

Prior to 1796 there were six bells only: one of which bore no inscription: the others were thus lettered:—

1. A. R. Founder. Thomas Seller Vicar.
   T. Harriman & W. S. Ch. W. 1707.
2. Ihesus be our speede 1600.
3. Prayes ye the Lorde 1600.
4. God save the church our Queen and Realme and send us peace through Christ Amen 1600.
5. This town subscribed to have me here thro' him whose name below I bear.
   George Arnett.

There were also chimes, connected with the works of the clock, which played at four, nine, and twelve o'clock every day.†

The Parish Book, which contains several agreements as to the repairs of the chimes in 1728, 1746, &c., records that it was agreed at a meeting held on the 10th March, 1796, "certain proposals be taken into consideration on Thursday next respecting the repairs to be done to the Bells." On the day indicated—that is 24th March, 1796—the Vestry agreed that

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 138.

† Dr. Yerburgh's Notes in MS.

> the present 6 bells being part burst and untuneable be recast and made into eight of the present weight, and that the churchwardens do procure a faculty for the same . . . and also that Mr. Osborn be agreed with to recast the bells . . .

Again at a Vestry held a few days later—6 April, 1796

> It was agreed that the present bells be recast into eight and that the tenor be cast in the Key of E according to proposals delivered on this day by Thomas Osborn of Downham in Norfolk and that the churchwardens do contract with the said T. Osborn.*

The Registers contain several notices of the ringing of the Passing bell for different members of the Royal Family: *e.g.* Prince of Wales, four hours in 1751: George II., twelve hours in 1760: Funeral of Princess Charlotte of Wales in 1817; death of Queen Charlotte one hour in 1818; death of George III., from one o'clock in the day till one o'clock in the night on 30th January, 1820; death of Queen Caroline one hour, on 8th August, 1821.†

The small bell known as the Butter bell had been long forgotten until the bells were examined for this work: respecting it see p. 250. Also as to Fire bell see p. 247.

Mr. Waterson (see 5th bell) was instituted as Vicar in 1781, and in 1791 resigned in order to be appointed Rector of Quarrington, after which, and in the same year, he seems to have been reappointed to the Vicarage of Sleaford, in which living he was succeeded by Dr. Yerburgh in 1809. He resigned Quarrington in 1797.

534 SNARFORD.

S. Lawrence. 1 Bell.

1. 1619.

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* These extracts were kindly made for me by Herbert Kirk, Esq., to whom I am indebted for much of the other information about these bells.

† Bishop Trollope's *Sleaford*, p. 146.

This bell has a hole in the crown. It is hung on a well-made half-wheel. [J. T. F.]

535 SNELLAND.

All Saints. 2 Bells.

1. MEARS & CO. FOUNDERS LONDON 1863.
(Diam. 22 in.)
2. [× 131 ? □ 107] 1647 [□ 170.]
(Diam. 23 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XIX.*, *XV.*, and *XXV.*

536 SNITTERBY.

S. Nicolas. 1 Bell.

1. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1864.
[*Royal* ▽ *Arms.*]
PATENT.
(Diam. 28½ in.)

537 SOMERBY near Brigg.

S. Margaret. 3 Bells.

1. [□ 77] DŌS TOMAS CVMBER-
WORTH ME FECIT FIERI
[□ 78]
[+ 79] HEC P LAVDE PIE RE-
SONAT CAMPANA MARIE
(Diam. 22 in.; height 19 in.)
2. [□ 141 □ 142 □ 141 □ 142 □ 144 □ 145.]
(Diam. 24 in.; height 20 in.; unhung.)

3. [□ 77] DN̄S TOMAS CVMBER-
WORTH ME FECIT FIERI
ANNO DN̄I M^{o}CCCCT^{i}CESIMO
P^{I} M^{o} [□ 78]
[+ 79] TRINITATE SACRA FIAT
HEC CAMPANA BEATA
(Diam. 27 in.; height 21 in.; unhung.)

For Stamps see pages 79 and 80 and *Plate XXI.*, and for the letters used on the 1st and 3rd bells see *Plate XIII.*, and fig. 74*a* on *Plate XII.*

The P on the 1st bell stands for Pro, which word is found in full in the same inscription at Somersby.

Sir Thomas Cumberworth, the donor of 1st and 3rd bells, was the son and heir of Robert de Cumberworth of Somerby and Stayne-in-the-Marsh. He served as High Sheriff in 1415 and 1431, and represented his county in the Parliaments of 1420, 1421, and 1424. These bells were probably intended for the Chapel of the Holy Trinity in this church, which chapel the same Sir Thomas Cumberworth provided with a rich supply of furniture, the Inventory of which is printed in Mr. Peacock's *English Church Furniture* (pp. 181—185.) The chapel is there called "the Trinitie Chappell in Som'by Kirk," and the things are given "to the Worship of the holy Trinitie, of o^{r} Ladie Virgine and Mother Saint Marie all the holy Saintes of Heaven for my saule and my wife Dame Katherine and for all Christiane saules and speciallie for those saules that god wald most speciallie I did for the yeare of o^{r} Lord 1440."

The bells were given in 1431. Sir Thomas Cumberworth's Will, (for which I am indebted to Mr. Peacock's Book just referred to) dated 1450, is sufficiently curious to warrant its production here:—

> In the name of Gode, and to his loveyng. Amen. I Thomas Cumbyrworth, knyght, the xv day of Feberyer, the yere of our lorde M^{E}CCCC and L in clere mynde and hele of body blyssyd be Gode, ordan my last wyll on this wise folowyng:—Furst, I gyff

my sawle to Godd, my lorde and my redemptur, and my wreched body to be beryd in a chitte with owte any kiste in the north yle of the parych kyrke of Somersby be my wyfe, and I wyll my body ly still, my mowth opyn, untile xxiiij ourys, and after laid on bere withowtyn any thyng ther upon to cover it bot a sheit and a blak cloth with a white crose of cloth of gold: bot I will my kyste be made and stande by and at my bereall giff it to hym that fillis my grave: also I gif my blissid Lord God for my mortuary there I am bered my best hors.

The 2nd and 3rd bells are unhung, and, sad to say, were covered with coal and other things when rubbings of the inscriptions were kindly taken for me by the Rector.

538 SOMERBY.

S. Mary. 1 Bell.

1. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1856.
(Diam. 27 in.)

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "a sacring bell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, was "solde to a puterer of Lincoln at Grantha' faire this year" by the churchwardens.

539 SOMERBY NEW.

S. Anne's School Chapel, opened 5th November, 1878, has one small new bell.

SOMERSBY.

S. Margaret. 2 Bells.

1. [+ 75] Misi De celis Ha eo Nomen Gabrielis.
(Diam. 26 in.)

2. [+ 75] Hec Pro Laude Pie Resonat Campana Marie.
(Diam. 28 in.)

For Stamp see page 79.

In 1552, when the Inventory of Church Goods was taken, the bells here were thus entered and valued:—

Inp'm two bells p'ce .....iiij*li.*
Itm̃ one littill bell & two hand bells..... vs.*

These two fine old bells happily still remain.

The bell-frames and the floor of the bell-chamber are rotten and in a dangerous state. There is no means of reaching the bells but by hired ladders, indeed the approach to them is a matter of great difficulty and some danger.

SOMERCOTES NORTH.

S. Peter. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. [□ 69] AVE [□ 61] MARIA [□ 63] GRACIA [□ 61] PLENA
2. [+ 1] IHESVS BE OVR SPEED 1616.
3. GOD SAVE OVR KING 1603.

Priest's Bell:—

Blank.

For Stamps see *Plate VIII.* and page 52.

SOMERCOTES SOUTH.

S. Mary. 3 Bells.

1. [+ *] VOCOR : MARIA
(Diam. 33 in. ; * as to cross see below.)

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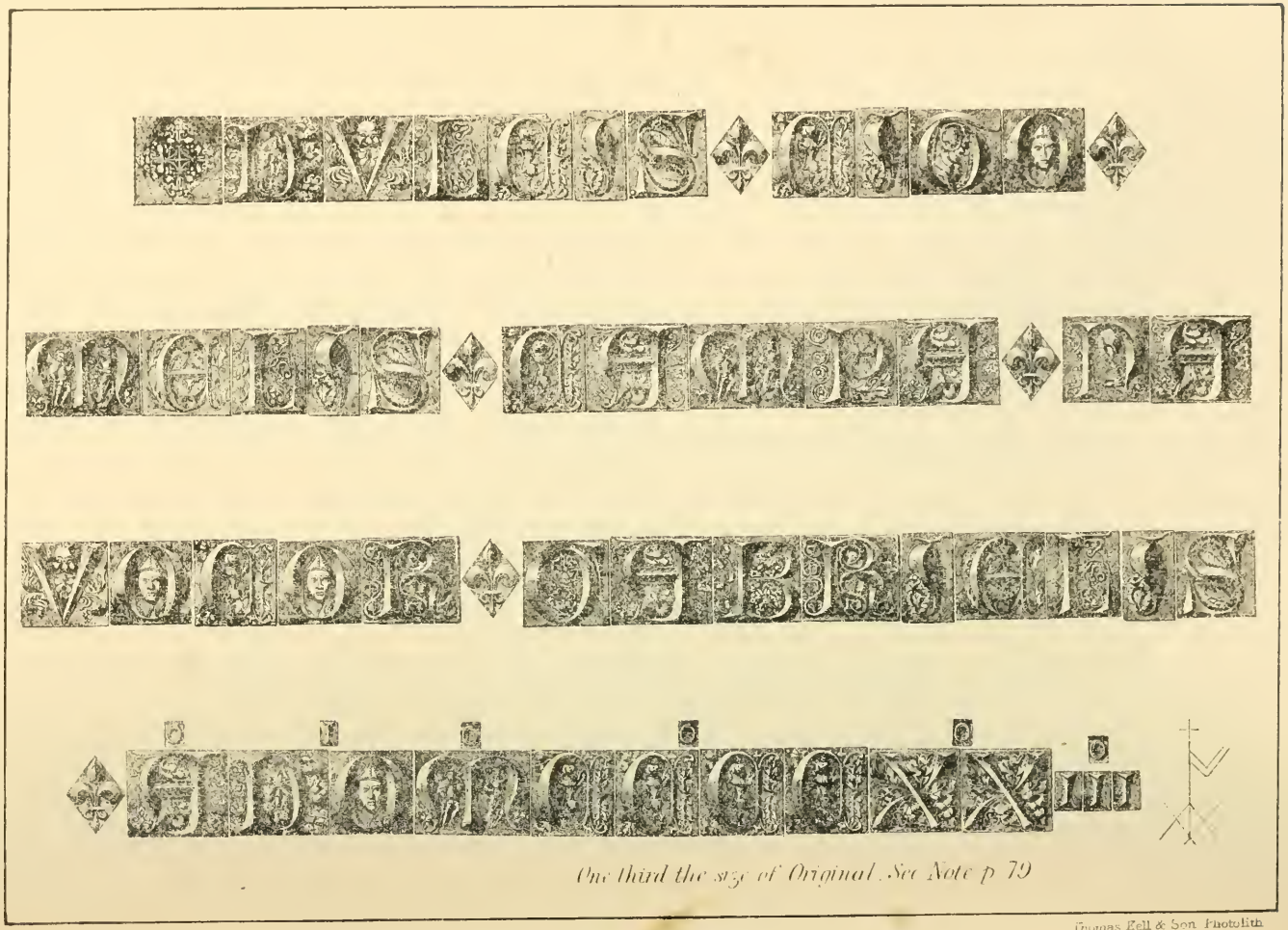
* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 78, P. R. Off.



One third the size of Original. See Note p 79

INSCRIPTION ON THIRD BELL AT SOUTH SOMERCOTES, LINCOLNSHIRE.

Thomas Bell & Son Photolith
4 King Street, Covent Garden

2. [+ 75] VOCOR [□ 76] PETRVS [□ 76] A° D'OM° [□ 77] CCCC° [□ 77] XX° [□ 76] III° [□ 77] WILLS [□ 77] SMARRI [□ 77] L [□ 76] MOYN [□ 78]

(Diam. 39½ in.; height 26 in.; thickness at sound-bow 2⅞ in.)

3. [+ 75] DVLCIS [□ 76] CITO [□ 76] MELIS [□ 76] CAMPA [□ 76] NA VOCOR [□ 76] GABRIELIS [□ 76] A° D'O M° CCCC° XX° III° [□ 78.]

(Diam. 43 in.; height 31 in.; thickness at sound-bow 3⅛ in.)

For Stamps see pages 79 and 80, and for letters used on the 2nd and 3rd bells see *Plates IX.—XII.*

These are most interesting mediæval bells, exceedingly rich in tone. The cross and letters on the 1st are quite plain, the former too much worn to engrave. The 2nd and 3rd are noble early dated bells. The letters are beautifully ornamented gothic capitals, some of which are found upon other bells in the county (see p. 79). They contain human and grotesque figures, natural representations of leaves, &c. The cross, too, is very elegant, being composed of crumpled foliage such as is used in Decorated work. The fleurs-de-lys used as stops are very good, whilst the additional stop used on the 2nd bell is well worthy of remark. They both have the kind of mason's or merchant's mark (fig. 78), which is also found on the corresponding bells at Somerby. These bells are probably coeval with the tower. The two names on the 2nd bell are probably those of church officials, or benefactors to the bells: Moi'gne Moyne, or Mone, is an old Lincolnshire name. [See under Wigtoft (Churchwardens' Accounts in A.D. 1531).]

563 SOTBY.

S. Peter. 1 Bell.

Tradition says there were formerly three bells here which were lost to the church when the tower was destroyed—which is probably true—and that one of them now hangs at Benniworth—which is probably not true. The present single bell is, writes the Rector, "a miserable little modern affair adapted for a town crier or a muffin hawker."

SPALDING.

SS. Mary and Nicolas. 6 Bells.

1. THOMAS OSBORN FECIT DOWNHAM NORFOLK 1801 ⁝:· ⁝·

(Diam. 29 in.)

2. [+2] OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI THOMAS NORRIS CAST ME 1629 W SNEATH B BVRTON CH WA.

(Diam. 30 in.; turned.)

3. OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI GLORIA DEO SOLI ·:· ANNO DOM ·:· 1733.

(Diam. 33 in.)

4. OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI ·:· ·⁝· GLORIA PATRI FILIO ET SPIRITUI SANCTO ·⁝· A : D : 1744 ·⁝·

(Diam. 35 in.)

5. [+1] JAMES WILSBY JOHN HOMAN CH WA 1648.

(Diam. 38½ in.; turned.)

6. THOMAS OSBORN FECIT 1801. MAURICE JOHNSON DD. MINISTER THOS MAPLES WM LAW CHURCH-WARDENS.

(Diam. 44 in.; note F.)

For Stamps see page 52.

The bells here are mentioned early in the fourteenth century, when a quarrel existed between the inhabitants and the prior and convent, the latter complaining of the annoyance caused to them by the ringing by the former of the bells of their parish church at unreasonable hours. The Prior and Convent appealed to the King, and the inhabitants to the Pope.

The dispute lasted for several years, and was eventually referred to "the R^t^ Revd Father in Christ our Lord, the Lord Henry de Beaufort the Bishop of Lincoln," who cited both parties to appear before him at Buckden, and took upon him the determination of the controversy on the 28th June, 1401.*

In the Rev. Maurice Johnson's MS. History of Spalding are bound up three folio leaves containing entries apparently copied from the original accounts of the churchwardens of the parish: the following refer to the bells:—

1519. p^d^ to Wm Carter Belrynger & Keeper of ye Kirke
for his yer' stypent ..... viij*s.* iiij*d.*
Itm̃ p^d^ for ryngyng when the Tempest was ..... iij*d.*

Prior to 1801 there were five bells only. On the 10th August in that year, as recorded in the Vestry Book,

> A Vestry meeting was held to consider the propriety of having a new treble bell and the tenor Bell recast. Churchwardens to write to Mr Osborne, Bell Founder of Downham, inviting him to come to ascertain the full tone or note of the said Bells, and finally to agree for the above order.
>
> Maurice Johnson
> (and ten others).

The Rev. H. T. Ellacombe's chiming apparatus is attached to the bells.

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* Vide *Antiquities of Spalding*, by T. Cammack, and *Minutes of the Spalding Gentlemen's Society*, Vol. IV. p. 120.

The 1st bell is called the Call Bell, rung just before the commencement of Service.

The 2nd is called the Pancake Bell, rung on Shrove Tuesday.

The 3rd is called the Curfew Bell, and is so used.

The 4th is called the Sacrament Bell, rung before the commencement of the Communion Office.

The 5th is called the Wedding Bell, used to summon the Priest to a wedding.

The 6th is called the Dead Bell, used as the Passing and Funeral Bell.

The Rev. Maurice Johnson, D.D. (see tenor bell) was Incumbent from 1782 to 1825, when he resigned. He died 25th May, 1834, aged 78 years.

In the early part of this century the widow of the sexton, continuing his duties, used to ring the six o'clock morning bell. She was also a washerwoman. Being engaged in the latter occupation at a clergyman's house with other women, she left the tub to ring the bell. One of her companions putting a white sheet around her, followed her, and in the dark stood on the bench in the south porch, and on the old woman coming out of the church, and while she was locking the door, set up a dreadful moan, thinking to frighten the old lady, but she quickly drew the huge key from the lock, and rushed at the figure with the exclamation, "Be ye 'live or dead here's a go at yer," and nearly slew the would-be ghost.

Here are peal boards dated 1804 and 1870. A Society of change ringers has been recently formed. The bells are in excellent condition.*

545 SPALDING.

S. John Baptist. 2 Bells.

1. MARY ANN DAUGHTER OF REV^D WALTER MAURICE JOHNSON
S^T LUKE VII. VER. V. A.D. 1875.
(Diam. 21 in.: note A flat.)

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* For much of the above information I am indebted to the Rev. Canon Moore, F.S.A., the Vicar of Spalding.

2. SAINT JOHN BAPTIST
S^T MATTHEW III. VER. III. A.D. 1875.
(Diam. 27 in.; weight 4 cwt. 0 qr. 11 lbs.; note E flat. Both cast by John Warner and Sons, London.)

Miss Mary Ann Johnson (1st bell), the daughter of the Rev. Walter Maurice Johnson, formerly Vicar of Weston S. Mary, built the church, endowed it with £350 a year, built a vicarage house, and an excellent schoolroom; and was, in other ways, a great benefactress to Spalding.

546 SPALDING.

S. PETER. 1 BELL.

The single bell at this chapel-of-ease is the one exhibited by the founders, Messrs. Mears of London, at the Great Exhibition of 1851.

547 SPALDING.

S. PAUL. 8 BELLS.

1. RICHARD : GUY : ASK : OUR VICAR : T : C : L
(Diam. 25½ in.)

2. [*see* ▽ *below*] CANON : MOORE : OUR : RURAL : DEAN : T : C : L
(Diam. 27 in.)

3. CHARLOTTE : CHARINTON : OUR : BENEFACTRESS : T : C : L
(Diam. 29½ in.)

4. [*see* ▽ *below*] XTOPHER : OUR : BISHOP : T : C : L
(Diam. 32½ in.)

5. [*see* ← *below*] SAINT : PAUL : OUR : PATRON : SAINT : T : C : L
(Diam. 35½ in.)

6. THE : HOLY : GHOST : OUR : SANCTIFIER : T : C : L
(Diam. 37 in.)

7. + JESUS : CHRIST : OUR : REDEEMER : T : C : L
(Diam. 40¼ in.)

8. GOD : OUR : FATHER : T : C : L
(Diam. 43¾ in.: weight 14 cwt. 2 qrs.: note F rather sharp.)

This ring of bells, from the foundry of Messrs. T. C. Lewis and Co., of Shepherd's Lane, Brixton, is, as the inscription on the 3rd tells us, the gift of the munificent foundress of the church, Miss Charlotte Charinton. The first stone of the church was laid on the 18th of November, 1877. Miss Charinton has not only given the site, built the church, and endowed it with £350. a year, but has also erected a vicarage house and schools.

The arms on the 2nd bell are Argent an engrailed chevron Sable between three moor-cocks proper (*Moore*); impaling Gules on a bend Or, three leopard's faces vert (*Stephenson of Swineshead*).

Those on the 4th bell are Gules two Lions passant guardant Or; on a chief Azure the Holy Virgin and child sitting crowned and bearing a sceptre of the second (*see of Lincoln*): impaling Argent 3 bells azure 2 and 1. (*Wordsworth*).

The 5th bell has a representation of a sword, the emblem of S. Paul the patron saint of the church, before the inscription.

The bells are in very substantial cast iron cradles.

SPANBY.

S. Nicolas. 1 Bell.

1. 1821.
(Diam. 13 in.)

SPILSBY.

S. JAMES. 6 BELLS.

1. I PRAIS THE O GOD 1744.
(Diam. 27½ in.)
2. WE ACKNOWLEDG THE TO BE THE LORD.
(Diam. 28½ in.)
3. THE GLAS DOTH RVN THE GLOBE DOTH GO AWAK FROM SIN WHY SLEEP YOU SO 1744.
(Diam. 29 in.)
4. [□ □ *see below*] 1744.
(Diam. 32½ in.)
5. DANIEL AND THOMAS HEDDERLY FOUNDERS 1744 [□ □ *see below.*]
(Diam. 36 in.)
6. Hec Campana Sacra Fiat Trinitate Beata 1744.
IOHN LANE C.W.
(Diam. 43 in.)

In 1553 there were here "iiij great belles j santus bell."*

That continued the number until 1744, as we learn from the following entry in the Parish Register:—

1744. Dec. 10. The first peal was rung on our 6 new Bells to-day. We had 4 bells before.

The Stamps on the 4th and 5th bells are a crown and shield bearing three bells.

The capitals on the tenor bell are those described on page 122.

SPITAL [CUM HEMSWELL].

The chapel-of-ease here has one small modern bell.

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{54}$, P. R. Off.

SPITTLEGATE NEAR GRANTHAM.

S. JOHN. 1 BELL.

The first sermon was preached in this modern church by the first Vicar on 7th February, 1842: there is one small bell.

SPRIDLINGTON.

S. HILARY. 1 BELL.

1. J. HARRISON FECIT WILLIAM MORRIS CHURCHWARDEN 1802.

(No canons.)

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "one handbell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been "sold and defacid."*

SPRINGTHORPE.

SS. GEORGE AND LAWRENCE. 4 BELLS AND A PRIEST'S BELL.

1, 2, 3. J. TAYLOR & CO FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1865.

(Weights: 1st, 7 cwt. 3 qrs. 0 lbs.: 2nd, 8 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lbs.: 3rd, 9 cwt. 3 qrs. 10 lbs.)

4. GEORGIVS [□ 44] CAMPANA [□ 43] VOS [□ 43] SONAT [□ 45] DVLCITER [□ 45] BENE [□ 50.]

(Weight: 9 cwt. 2 qrs. 0 lbs.]

Priest's Bell:—

Blank.

---

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 142.

For Stamps see *Plate VI.*

In 1553 there were "iij gret belles & one santus bell."*

Three "gret belles" continued the number until 1865, when two of the old bells (weighing respectively 6 cwt. 0 qr. 11 lbs., and 6 cwt. 3 qrs. 0 lbs.) were sent to the founder and three new ones as shown above hung in their stead. They were first tried on the evening of the 1st December, 1865.

The stops on the ancient bell are unusual. UOS is a mistake for VOX.

"In the chancel are suspended a maiden's funeral wreath and gloves cut out of white paper, such as are yet not uncommonly displayed in some parts of England, but very rarely in Lincolnshire. It is reported that the girl thus commemorated here was killed through the unwary manner in which she pulled one of the bell ropes, whence she was dashed against the belfry floor above."†

554

STAINBY.

S. Peter. 4 Bells.

1. J : TAYLOR & CO. FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH
HAS QUATUOR CAMPANAS I : II : III : IV : SIGNATAS
DEDERUNT GEORGIUS OSBORNE A.M. RECTOR
ET FRANCESCA UXOR EJUS A : D : 1865.
(Diam. 32¾ in.)

2. + J : TAYLOR & CO. FOUNDERS 1865 +
II. LAUS DEO.
(Diam. 33¾ in.)

3. TAYLOR & CO. LOUGHBOROUGH 1865
III. SURGE AGE.
(Diam. 36 in.)

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off.

† *Associated Architectural Societies' Reports and Papers*, 1865-6, p. 238.

4. IV. MORTUOS PLANGO MORTUOS VIVENTES MONEO J : TAYLOR & CO. FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1865.

(Diam. 40½ in.; key G.)

The Rev. George Osborne, Prebendary of Lincoln and Rural Dean, who was Rector here for 45 years, completely restored this church at his own cost. He died 3rd July, 1871, and was buried in the churchyard.

STAINFIELD.

S. Andrew. (?) 1 Bell.

Here is a small bell without inscription, probably hung when the church was rebuilt in 1711.

556 STAINTON-BY-LANGWORTH.

S. John Baptist. 1 Bell.

1. [+ 111] IHESVS BE OVR SPEDE [□ 113.]

For Stamp see *Plate XVI.*

557 STAINTON-LE-VALE.

S. Andrew. 1 Bell.

1. 1622.

(Diam. 18½ in.)

In 1553 there were here "ij gret belles j santus bell."*

Those two larger bells—if not all three—were subsequently recast. One remains here, another, with the date in the same figures as the

* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

above, and 16¼ inches in diameter, was—it is said—removed to the Hall, and the third went to Ranby Hall. There is no record of the circumstances under which they were moved.

STAINTON MARKET.

S. Michael. 3 Bells.

1. [+42] M [+42] M [+42] M [+42] M [+42] M [+42] M [+42] M
(Diam. 24 in.)

2. TV IESV DIRRIGE MENTES SVSCITO VOCE PIOS CHRISTOPHER BLAKISTON 1712.
(Diam. 26 in.)

3. [+172] IHESUS BE OUR SPEDE 1610.
(Diam. 29 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates VI.* and *XXV.*

In 1553 "Markett Staynton" possessed "iij bells in ye stepyll & j sanct' bell."* One only of those ancient bells now remains (the 1st) bearing a gothic letter M seven times repeated with a circular stop between each. The letter may be used as the initial of the name of S. Michael, the titular saint of the church, but more probably it is intended for the Blessed Virgin Mary. Such a mode of decoration was not uncommon in mediæval times. The Guild of the B. V. Mary of Boston possessed "a vestymēt of blew worsted wt this lre M crowyned.†"

The 2nd bell was from the Nottingham foundry.

STALLINGBOROUGH.

SS. Peter and Paul. 1 Bell.

1. DANIEL HEDDERLY FOUNDER EDWARD COMINS C. W. 1744.
(Diam. 38 in.: canons gone.)

---

* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 208.

In 1566 the churchwardens of "Stallingbrok" reported that of church goods belonging to the church in Queen Mary's time "a pix and a crismatorie" were "sold and defacid and melted to make a bell bouldr̄ the sayd fyrst yeare" of Elizabeth's reign, and "handbels and a sacring bell" had been "put awaie an meltid to the casting of bell bethers the said fyrst yeare."*

STAMFORD.

All Saints. 6 Bells.

1. BOUGHTON HODGES & THOMAS HAYNES CHURCH-WARDENS R. TAYLOR S^T NEOTS FECIT 1808.
(Diam. 32 in.)

2, 4. Blank.
[Diams. 32⅞, 36 in.]

3. BOUGHTON HODGES & THOMAS HAYNES CHURCH-WARDENS ROB^T TAYLOR S^T NEOTS FECIT 1808.
(Diam. 35 in.)

5. BOUGHTON HODGES & THOMAS HAYNES CHURCH-WARDENS.
(Diam. 39¾ in.)

6. BOUGHTON HODGES & THOMAS HAYNES CHURCH-WARDENS ROB^T TAYLOR FECIT 1808.
(Diam. 44 in.; note F sharp.)

In 1727 there were five bells only, and a Sancte bell: the five bells were inscribed:—

1. Hæc nova campana Margaretta est nominata.
2. Nomen Magdalene campana sonat melodie.
3. In multis annis resonet campana Johannis.

---

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 144.

4. IHS. Nazarethæ Rex Judeorum Fili Dei miserere mei. Cornelius Edis and Thomas Lenton Churchwardens 1725.
5. God save the King Tobias Norris cast me 1674.

Having regard to the inscriptions on the 1st and 3rd of these ancient bells, Peck guesses they were given by John Brown and Margaret his wife who were buried at the east end of the north aisle.

Subsequently the 3rd bell of this old ring was recast; being inscribed:—

3. Laudate Dominum cymbalis sonoris. Thomas Eayre pyrotechnus de Kettering fecit 1759.

The old bells were recast and a new one added in 1808, at the cost of £230. The Priest's bell probably disappeared at that time.*

On the wall of the belfry is the following:—

All you that do pretend to Ring
You under take a Dangerous thing
If that a bell you overthrow
Two Pence must pay Before you go
1694.

The Churchwardens' Books have many entries relating to the bells. The following are extracted:—†

1588-9.	paid to Tho. Orpin for chimes	ij*s.* 5*d.*
1701.	Dec. 13. To ye Ringers at ye p'clamation of Queene Anne.....	00 . 03 . 06
1702.	April 23. The Coronation day expended on ye Ringers	00 . 06 . 06
	Nov. 5. To ye Ringers	3 . 6
	[Many entries for Ringing on Thanksgiving Days, for Victories, &c.]	

* See Peck, Harrod, and Burton.

† For the following extracts I am much indebted to Mr. Justin Simpson.

1705.	Gave Geo. Woolley for tolling the bell to call the parishioners together about burying the woman that was executed	1	0	
	Paid Mr Watts for the new Clock as p. acquittance	10	0	0
1710.	Paid John Brown for new hanging the Bells as p. Bill	10	12	0
	Paid . . . the money expended on ringers when the bells were rehung	0	7	0
1716.	May 28. Paid for ringing on King George landing	0	10	0
	Octr 20. to George Redmile for Ringing on King George's Coronation		2	6
1716-17.	Jan. 21. Paid to Tho. Spinks for ringing for ye King coming home to London		2	6
	April 23. paid John Kittell for Ringing on Queen Anne's coronation		4	6

[Much ringing on Royal and Loyal occasions.]

1725. Disbursements of Cornelius Edis churchwarden for ye Repairs of the 4th bell:—

Aug. 17.	Paid for help getting ye Bell down & for drink	4	6
	To Tealby for his pulleys	2	0
23.	For help weighing the Bell & for drink	2	6
	Expended with Mr Eayre when he came to take ye Bell	4	0
Sep. 6.	Paid for help loading the Bell & drink	5	0
14.	My Partnor (Thomas Lenton) going to Kettering to Deliver the Bell; horse & self	8	0
22.	At the Assessment making	2	6
	To Mr Well for writing the same	2	6
Oct. 4.	To Mr Snow for making ye article	6	8
	Paid for Letters to and from Kettering		6

[1726.] Feb. 28.	My Partner going to Kettering to see after ye Bell horse & self.....	8 .	0
	Paid to Mr Eayre as p. receipt	9 . 9 .	6
	Paid To ye Ringers when the bell was hung	5 .	0
	Paid to John Smith for a horse to carry Mr Eayrs Brother home he being lamed by ye Bell	3 .	0

[Other payments connected with the recasting]

Total disbursements £15 . 17 . 8.

Much ringing and many payments for the same. The following Orders relating to the ringing of the bells were made in 1715:—

1715. 28 April. Itm̃ ordered that noe more than one shilling per bell be at any tyme hereafter allowed upon any occasion for ringing within the said parish.

6 Dec. It is ordered that neither the Clerk nor Sexton permitt any persons to ring without the consent of the Minister & Churchwardens or two of them upon any occasion whatever under penalty of each offending two shillings & six pence to be deducted out of their sallary for each offence.

STAMFORD.

S. George. 4 Bells.

1. VOX MEA EST DULCIS MEA SCINTILLANS VULTUS : · : · · INTACTUM SILEO PERCUTE DULCE CANO,
·: THO^S : EAYRE, FECIT, 1761.
(Diam. 26¼ in.)

2. R. A. KNOWLES RECT^R ✠ TH^O HUCKERBY & JO^S STEVENSON CHURCHWARDENS 1777 ✠
(Diam. 26¾ in.)

3. REV^D MR HUNT RECTOR EDW^D LINCOLN SPENCE MAIN C.W. ARNOLD FECIT 1797.
(Diam. 29¼ in.)

4. [+ 1] E D WEBSTER RO LIGHTFOOTE C W 1697.
(Diam. 31½ in.)

For Stamps see page 52.

Harrod says that in 1785 the inscription on the 3rd bell was

Dic beatus ante obitum nemo.

In the will of William Bruges, dated 26th February, 1449, is a bequest to this church :—

> Item I bequethe to the said chirch a little handbell of sylver, of the gretnesse of a sacryng bell.

The Rev. Richard Arthur Knowles (see 2nd bell) was presented to the living by the Earl of Exeter in 1755: he was succeeded by the Rev. Samuel Hunt (see 3rd bell).

STAMFORD.

S. John Baptist. 4 Bells.

1. RICHARD [□ 98] SNADON [□ 98] PARSON [□ 98] ANNO 1561 [▽ 99.]
(Diam. 26½ in.)

2. R : TAYLOR S^T NEOTS · FECIT · 1814 O EDW^D CLIPSHAM · & EDW^D ASKEW · C : W.
(Diam. 30 in.)

3. [□ 107] [+ 140] [▽ 127] [+ 140] [+ 140] [+ 140.]
(Diam. 31¾ in.)

GENT

4. ROBERT [□ 98] MEDOENS [□ 98]
TOBE [□ 98] LOVADAIE [□ 98]
1561 [□ 98 ▽ 99.]
(Diam. 33½ in.)

For Stamps see page 91, *Plates XV.*, and pages 118 and 114.

The 1st and 4th bells are amongst the few in Lincolnshire from the Leicester founder, and have the inscriptions in the ornate letters figs. 101 (see p. 92). The 2nd bell was previously dated 1561, and there was formerly a Priest's bell inscribed :—

CVM VOCO VENITE 1605.

Peck, referring to an old parish book, in which the fourth and *middle* bells were often mentioned, concludes that there were once five bells belonging to this church.*

The Church Books supply the following entries relating to the bells :—

1587-8.	lead forth for mending the gret bell staye		ij*d*.
	lead forth for mending the bell ropes to Jeames blyethe.....		iij*d*.
	lead forth for mending the bawdrick of the sekond bell		iiij*d*.
	lead forth for a rope for littell bell.....		vij*d*.
	lead forth for mettel to mending the belles at mistres backhow's biriall†		ij*d*.
1588-9.	pead to thomas timmins for making iij ball-drickes and mending our forth belles	ij*s*.	x*d*.
1589-90.	Itm̃ payd to Richard Goodlad . . . for dressing of all the bells the fyrst day of July	iiij*s*.	

* *Antiquarian Annals of Stamford*, Lib. XIV. 35.

† The Parish Register under date of 18th February, 1586-7, records the burial of "Johan Backhus ye wiffe of John Backhus wholling drap.," whose own burial is entered on the 5th November, 1590.

	Itm̃ to the Ringers upon S^{t} hewes day for bread & drynck for them	xij*d.*
1595-6.	Itm̃ gyven to ye Ringers on sanct hewyghes day	xij*d.*
	Itm̃ for candle on S^{t} hewyhe nyght	ij*d.*
	Itm̃ for a rope for the lytle bell	viij*d.*
1601-2.	On the crownation day for 2 belrops	iij*d.*
	It' candels and grese	ij*d.*
1604-5.	Itm̃ p^{d} to the Ringers the fyrst day of August 1603	xij*d.*
	Itm̃ p^{d} to John Pearson for mending the belropes when mistris loveday was buryed	ij*d.*
	Itm̃ bestowed upon the Ringers the xxiiij^{tie} day of March	xiiij*d.*
	Itm̃ payd to Sheffeld and Jo. Storye for taking up the great bell from the place wher it was fallen down into the frame	ij. vj*d.*
1605-6.	Itm̃ paid for liftinge upp the second bell into ye frame	ij*d.*
	Itm̃ paid to Tobye Norrysh for our bell castinge	xvij*s.*
	Itm̃ paid to ye Ringers the 24 of Marche	ij*d.*
1606-7.	Itm̃ paid to the Ringers of St. James daye	vj*d.*
1608-9.	Itm̃ paid for Rynging the Vth of November	vj*d.*
1609-10.	Itm̃ paid for Two Bell Ropes against St. James daye	iij*s.*
	Itm̃ paid for Ringers uppon our Ladyes even	vj*d.*
1610-11.	[Ringing on Coronation day and 5th Nov^{r}]	
1613-14.	Item payd to browning for a bel clapper	vj*s.* viij*d.*
	Item payd for bread and drinke for the Ringers upon the Kinges daye	xij*d.*
1614-15.	P^{d} to the ringers when the King cam a prograce	ij*d.*
1615-16.	P^{d} to the ringers on St. James day	0 . 0 . 6
	[Baldricks and Bell ropes.]	
1622-3.	given on St. James daye to Ringers	vj*d.*
	given to Ringers for Joye at the princes returne	viij*d.*

1624-5.	given to the Ringers for Ringing at Kings p'clamation	xij*d.*
	Itm̃ given to the ringers on the Coronation day	1*s.* 0
1627-8.	It' for two iron baldrocks.....	iiij*s.*
	It' for lether for two baldrocks	vj*d.*
1628-9.	It' to ringers when the Bishop came to the towne	v*d.*
	[Ringing on 5th Nov. and King's Coronation.]	
1632-3.	It' given to ye Bishop of Lincolne at ye Bull in wine	0 . 03 . 0
	It' given to ye Ringers ye same daye	0 . 01 . 0
1633-4.	It' given to ye ringers at ye Kings coming	00 . 03 . 00
	It' to Goodman Browning for 2 staples for ye Saint bell	00 . 00 . 06
	It' to ye Ringers at ye Kings coming back	00 . 01 . 02
1635-6.	It for ringing w^n^ ye King came throu ye towne*	00 . 02 . 00
	It for ringing on ye fift of Novemb^r^ calld ye poud^r^ Treason	00 . 01 . 00
1643-4.	It' to the Ringers for Ringing for my Lord of Exeter†	0 . 1 . 0
	It' ffor Beare to the ringers one the 5th of Novr. to Symon Stroude	0 . 0 . 6
	[The same in succeeding years.]	
	It' to Gyles Nelson for the same	0 . 1 . 6
1652-3.	given to ye Ringers for ringing on Nove 5th.....	0 . 1 . 4

* The three entries here quoted refer to the three visits of Charles I. as King to Stamford. The Records of the Municipality contain divers orders as to the procedure to be observed. They also show that the ringers frequently received gratuities from noblemen and gentlemen for ringing on the occasion of their being made "free of this Corporācon."

† David Cecil succeeded his uncle William (the second Earl) as Earl of Exeter in 1640: he died 18th April, 1643, at Exeter House, in the Strand, London, and was buried in the family vault in S. Martin's, Stamford Baron, so there is no doubt this payment was for ringing at his funeral.

This Book ends in the year 1676, but there are no further entries of interest relating to the Bells.

The marriage of Richard Snowdon, the parson in 1561, (see 1st bell,) is thus entered in the Parish Register:—

> 1602 (3). The seaventeenth daye of Januaryie, being Sunday, Richard Snowsden, Clerk, & Margaret Cunyngton Spinster wear marryed.

He shortly afterwards died of the plague, which was then raging with great virulence in Stamford. The Parish Register records his burial:—

> 1604. Richard Snowden, Clarke, buryed June iij.

By his will, dated 20th May, and proved 27th December, 1604, he gave his lands, messuage, houses, and tenements, after the decease of his wife, for the benefit of seven poor widows of Stamford of three score years of age. An Hospital bearing his name is now in existence in Scotgate, Stamford, which has been augmented by other benefactors since his decease.

"Robert Meddowes [see 4th bell] Mercer," says the Corporation Records, took up his freedom 30th September, 1576, "he profferinge iiij^{li} the rest of his ffyne xx^{s} was forgyven him in consideracon y^{t} he was p^{r}tis in this towne." The Register of the Parish says:—

> 1622. Robert Meadows gent. buryed Aug. 1.

The Municipal Records have many entries relating to Toby Loveday [see 4th bell], not altogether to his credit. The Parish Register records in the list of burials:—

> 1625. Toby Loveday gent. August 12.*

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* For the extracts from the Parochial Records and Parish Register I am much indebted to Mr. Justyn Simpson, of Stamford.

STAMFORD.

S. Mary. 8 Bells.

1. Rt West Mayor Wm Smith Antony Baker Ch Wardens. Peace to all the World Thos Mears of London Fecit 1802.
(Diam. 30 in.)

2. Thos Mears of London Fecit Rt West Mayor Wm Smith Anthony Baker Church Wardens 1802 Not in Word nor in Tongue But in deed and in truth.
(Diam. 31 in.)

3. SVM ROSA PVLSATA MVNDA MARIA VOCATA TOBIE NORRIS CAST ME 1625.
(Diam. 33 in.; coins on rim.)

4. HENRY : PENN MADE : ME 1727 ⁝:⁝ IOHN ⁝ SEATON ⁝ MAYOR ⁝ EDWARD : PEAKE : MATTHEW : NEWARK : CHURCHWARDENS :·:
(Diam. 33½ in.)

5. [+ 2] OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI TOBIE NORRIS CAST ME 1625.
(Diam. 35½ in.)

6. Exalted to this Station at the request and Expence of a few Private Gentlemen R West Mayor Thos Mears of London Fecit 1802 Peace & Love be multiplyD
(Diam. 38¾ in.)

7. [+ 1] IESVS [▫ 4] SPEDE [▫ 4] VS [▫ 4] STANFORDI [▫ 4] ENSIBVS [▫ 4] INSERVIENS [▫ 4] IPSA [▫ 4] CONTEROR [▫ ▫ ▫ 4.]
TOBIE NORRIS CAST ME 1626.
[*On waist Royal ▽ Arms of Charles I.*]
(Diam. 41 in.)

8. [+ 1] FEARE GOD HONOVR THE KING IB [□ 6] TT GARDEANI 1638.

(Diam. 46 in.)

For Stamps see pages 52 and 53.

Prior to 1802 there were only six bells: the two bells added in that year were hung on the 3rd of June.

The present 3rd probably preserves the inscription on an older bell.

The 4th and 6th were previously inscribed :—

4. Non verbo sed voce resonabo Domini laudem.
6. Celorum Christe placeat tibi Rex sonus iste.

The inscription on the 7th has been oddly blundered by some of the local historians.

There was a Priest's bell here inscribed :—

SANCTA MARIA,

which was evidently the ancient Sanctus bell recast (with the ancient inscription) by Norris in the seventeenth century. Having been removed from its place, and handed down from one churchwarden to another, it was, in 1854, repaired at the expense of the parish, and presented to the Cemetery Chapel, where it now hangs. This is shown by the following extract from the Vestry Book of the church :—

Thursday 5 Octr 1854.

Resolved: That a Bell of the weight of about 48 lbs. inscribed "Sancta Maria" which has not been in use for many years and is not likely to be again required for the use of the church be presented to the Stamford Burial Board for the purpose of being placed in the Tower of the new Cemetery.

This is considered the mother church of the town and one of its bells has been for many years the "Common Bell" of the Municipality,

(see p. 253.) The Hall Books contain a few references to the bells and chimes:—

1638. Aug 28. Ordered that the churchwardens of ev'y pish shall collect in theire se'rall parishes of the inhabitants for their contribusons towards the new castinge of St Maries great bell.

1683. Mar. 27. Agreed upon y^{t} the chamberlaine for ye time being shall pay ye sume of twenty shillings yearly out of ye towne stocke towards ye chymes in St Mary's Church in Stamford.

1728. Aug. 29. Ordered that the chamberlain of the Corporation do pay . . . the sume of Ten pounds towards the charges of new casting the second bell [present 4th] in the church of the said Parish of St Mary.

In 1741 the Corporation paid £13 11s., to Boniface Bywater for repairing the chimes, and in 1770 agreed to pay Joseph Eayre £40. for new chimes he "to take to his own use the old chime materials."

Again, in 1801, it was ordered that Edward Arnold of Leicester be employed to repair the chimes "to the good liking & approbation of the Mayor (R^{t} West Esq.) & Mr. Alderman Tatam." Twenty years later (in 1821) the chimes were again out of order, but "this hall considering them of utility to the public" it was ordered "that the chamberlain be authorized to pay the expense of repairing them, & that in future the chimes be repaired & regulated at the expense of this Corporation." This generous resolution was rescinded in the days of "Reform," for, in answer to a petition from the churchwardens requesting the Corporation to clean and repair the chimes, it was resolved at a Hall held 29th Aug. 1833, "that no part of the funds of this Corporation be applied for such purpose."

The Corporation now again pays expenses connected with the clock and chimes, they are compounded for by a payment of £10 a year, the clock keeper to make all repairs at his own expense. The chimes play at 3, 6, 9, and 12 o'clock day and night: the following are the tunes, as inscribed on a brass plate on the frame:—

108 Psalm.	Lodging on the ground.
General Toast.	God save the King.
Tight Little Island.	Highland Laddie.
Gramnocree Molly.	145 Psalm.

The clock has a brass plate inscribed :—

> The gift of the Hon^able^ Charls Cecil & the Hon^able^ Charls Bertie members of Parliament for ye Corporation performed by Boniface Bywater Stamford Jany. ye 20. 1709.

The Account Books of the chamberlains of the Corporation supply a few entries relating to the Bells such as :—

1709.	P^d^ to Henry Smith his yeares sallary for ringing the 4 & 8 o'clock Bell at St. Marys & at the halls & sessions & 1*s.* for oyle	02 . 01 . 00
	P^d^ Richard Lane for drink for the Ringers on the surrender of Ghent	00 . 06 . 00
	[Similar payments on 29th May, Queen's birthday, when Bishop of Lincoln was at Stamford, Victory in October last (capture of Lisle ?)]	
1710.	[Ringing on taking "Mono," anniversary of "the defence of Gibraltar," St. George's day, "on forcing ye ffrench lines," taking of Douay.]	
1712.	To the Ringers on surrender of Dundirke	00 . 07 . 06
	(Ringing on Queen's birthday, Coronation day, 8 March [*i.e.* Accession day,] 29 May.)	
1714.	P^d^ Bryan Harrison for Ringers on King's proclamation day	00 . 06 . 00
	P^d^ Widow Moats to the Ringers when ye King landed	00 . 09 . 00
	[and similar payments.]	
1728.	To Matthew Newark Churchwarden of St. Mary's pish towards the new casting the 2nd [present 4th] bell in St. Mary's Church according to an order of the Hall	10 . 00 . 00

1736.	To Edw[d] Lyon for mending the Corporation Bell in St. Mary's Church	00 . 06 . 00
	[Many payments in different years to Ringers, Chimes, and repairs connected with the bells.]	
1771.	To Joseph Eayre Bellfounder for the new chimes at St. Mary's by order of the Hall	40 . 00 . 00
	[4 and 8 o'clock bell mentioned in several years.]	
1789.	Edw. Arnold Bellfounder for hanging the Corporation bell	6 . 6 . 0
1820.	P[d] the Ringers on the occasion of the King's accession to the Throne	10
	P[d] to the Ringers on the Duke of Wellington coming to Stamford	1 . 1 . 0

Payments in connection with the bells, and chimes, continue until the year 1834.

An ancient account of "Iohīs leche Goldsmyth de Stanf' ꝑpōiti ēcclie ad pontem Stanf' anno sexto Reg Henr' sexti post conq' [1428]" has these references to the bells:—

In emenand campanis	vj*s.*
Et sol' ꝑ j belropp	viij*d.*
Et in corio ēpt' ad funes campanaru'	ij*d.*
Et Ioh'i Rope ꝑ j corda cāpane	xj*d.*
Et eidm̃ ꝑ al' corda	x*d.*
Et sol' Tho' Basse ꝑ j baudryk	vj*d.*
Et sol' ꝑ vno culo ad cāpanam	iiij*d.**

The earliest Churchwardens' Accounts now remaining in the church commence in 1633.

There are various entries in the Accounts from 1649 to 1653 of small sums due from the town for repairing the 5th bell and the chimes, which the churchwardens do not appear to have recovered.

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* *Cotton MS. Vesp.* A. 24, f. 36, quoted in Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 179.

During the eighteenth century there are payments for ringing on royal and loyal occasions.

In 1789 the bells were rehung and repaired by Edward Arnold of Leicester. The accounts say:—

1789-90.

June 6.	pd Arnol part of his bill	15 . 15 . 0
Ap[l] 6.	pd M[r] Arnold remainder of his bill for repairs of Bells &c.	16 . 5 . 6

In 1802, when the ring was augmented by the addition of two treble bells, the actual founder, as is shown by the inscriptions, was Thomas Mears of London, but, for some reason, the transaction passed through the hands of Edward Arnold, who, perhaps, at that time had given up the casting of bells.

1802.

June 30. paid M[r] Arnold's Bill £44 . 6 . 6 on acct of 2 new Bells which with £40 paid him by M[r] Stevenson with the parishioners consent is the full amount of Arnold's Bill.

The Mr. Leonard Stevenson here referred to—who was Mayor in 1808-9—was a surgeon and apothecary. He advanced the money (which was raised subsequently by assessment) on a Note of Hand.

During the present century there are, as before, numerous charges for ringing, including:—

1820.	Ap. 1.	Ringing for the proclamation of George 4th	1 . 1 . 0
		P[d] Ringers a dumb peal on the funeral of George 3rd	1 . 1 . 0
1835.	Sep. 4.	P[d] the Ringers on occasion of the Princess Victoria passing thro' the town to the Musical festival at York ...	2 . 0
1840.	Feb. 10.	The Ringers Queen's Marriage	12 . 0
	May 25.	Ringers Queen's birthday	12 . 0

1852.	Nov. 18.	P^d share of ringing a dumb peal on the day of the funeral of the Duke of Wellington	3 . 10
1862.	Feb. 17.	Tolling bell part of 2 days death of Prince Consort	2 . 6

Robert West (see 1st bell) was apprentice to Henry Parker, confectioner, admitted as freeman 28th August, 1778, constable of this parish 1778-9, capital burgess or common councillor 29th August, 1782, chamberlain 1797-8, an alderman 28th August, 1800, and Mayor 1800-7. He died in London 30th March, 1826.

John Seaton, mercer, (see 4th bell) who commenced his public career in the Council Chamber as a capital burgess on 29th August, 1689, taking the seat vacated by Samuel Parker, who had resigned on declining to take the prescribed oath of allegiance to William and Mary, was thrice Mayor, viz.: 1704-5; 1717-8 and 1726-7, and was buried at St. Michael's Church, on the 16th February, 1730-1.

The initials on the tenor bell may be those of John Butcher and Thomas Thistlewheat, or perhaps the latter and John Bullock. Those families have given useful parochial officers to the parish.*

STAMFORD.

S. Michael. 6 Bells.

1. PRAISE THE LORD UPON THE HIGH SOUNDING CYMBALS :· 1762 ·:|:·
(Diam. 29½ in.)

2. IT IS APPOINTED FOR ALL ONCE TO DIE ·:|:·
JOS : EAYRE S^T NEOTS FECIT 1762 ·:·
(Diam. 30½ in.)

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* I am again much indebted to Mr. Justin Simpson for making copious extracts from the Municipal and Parochial Records relating to these bells.

3. OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI 1762.
(Diam. $31\frac{1}{4}$ in.)
4. HENRY WARD AND JAMES DAVIE CHURCH WARDENS :· J : EAYRE S^T NEOTS FOUNDER 1762.
(Diam. $33\frac{3}{4}$ in.)
5. HENRY WARD AND JAMES DAVIE CHURCH WARDENS :· ANNO DOMINI :· 1762.
(Diam. $36\frac{3}{4}$ in.)
6. I TO THE CHURCH THE LIVING CALL AND TO THE GRAVE DO SUMMON ALL :· ANNO DOM :· 1762.
(Diam. $39\frac{1}{4}$ in.)

Prior to 1762 there were "four very small bells none of them above a hundred years old," which, says Peck, were mounted on the west end of the nave in a small tower of wood.*

The present bells are sadly discordant: "indeed," writes Harrod, "the din of St Michael's bells is so intolerable to those who live in their vicinity that they will readily believe there is no devil in his senses but will get away as fast as he can as soon as their clamour begins."

Basil Ferrar, late parish clerk and a celebrated ringer, left £20. to the churchwardens, the interest of which was to be applied in keeping the bell ropes in repair.†

STAMFORD.

The church of S. Paul is now part of the Grammar School.

The school bell is perfectly plain. There are a few entries in the Chamberlains' Accounts referring to it: for instance:—

1716-7.	P^d for ye School bell rope	00 . 02 . 00
1718-9.	John Webdale for ffree school bell rope	00 . 02 . 00

* *Antiquarian Annals of Stamford*, Lib. VIII. p. 12. Marrat mentions this small wooden tower as having been taken down.

† *Burton's Chronology of Stamford.*

STAMFORD.

BROWNE'S HOSPITAL. 1 BELL.

1. CHRISTOPHER COOKSOR B.A. WARDEN CHARLES SANDERS A.M. CONFRATER.

(Diam. 20½ in.)

The Rev. Christopher Cookson (not Cooksor as on the bell) was Confrater from 1785 to 1808, and Warden from the latter date to 1845.

The Rev. Charles Sanders was Confrater from 1808 to 1844.

The clock strikes on the bell which is also used to ring for prayers.

STAMFORD [ROMAN CATHOLIC.]

OUR LADY AND S. AUGUSTINE. 1 BELL.

+ AVE : MARIA : GRATIÂ : PLENA.
+ SANCTE : AUGUSTINE : ORA : PRO : NOBIS.

STAMFORD.

CEMETERY CHAPEL. 1 BELL.

1. SANCTA MARIA.

This was formerly the Priest's bell at S. Mary's Church. It is a recast in the seventeenth century by Norris of Stamford of an older bell which was most probably the ancient Sanctus bell of that church [see p. 676].

STAPLEFORD.

ALL SAINTS. 1 BELL.

1. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1691.

(Diam. 27 in.)

This bell (which was from the Nottingham foundry) cannot be rung as there is no stay.

STEEPING GREAT.

ALL SAINTS. 1 BELL.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 22 in.)

This modern bell replaced, a few years ago, a small cracked one, on which was said to be a grotesque head with an illegible inscription in old English characters.*

STEEPING LITTLE.

S. ANDREW. 3 BELLS.

1. [+ 106] IOHN HOLLAND GENT THE TRVTHE FOR TO TELL AND IOHN COXHEAD YOMAN THE FOVNDERS OF

THIS BELL

1594

(Diam. 32½ in.)

2. J. TAYLOR & CO. LOUGHBOROUGH 1874.

(Diam. 36 in.)

3. Hec Campana Bena [□ 19] trinitate Sacra Fat

(Diam. 39 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XV.* and page 70.

In 1553 there were here "iij belles & a sant' bell in the steple."† Of these the 1st was soon afterwards recast, the 2nd which is said to have been inscribed:—

Johannis Baptistæ Campana,

remained until 1874, and the 3rd, with the blundered inscription, still exists.

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* Oldfield's *Wainfleet*, p. 267. † *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods Linc.* $\frac{3}{54}$, P. R. Off.

STENIGOT.

S. Nicholas. 1 Bell.

1. 1716 [○ 7.]

(Diam. 15½ in.)

For Stamp see page 59.

In 1553 "Staincote," in Gartree Wapentake, possessed "three greate bells and one Sanctus bell,"* for which the present small bell is a very unworthy substitute.

STEWTON.

S. Andrew. 1 Bell.

1. 1856. (Diam. 14 in.)

STICKFORD.

S. Helen. 1 Bell.

1. [+ 124] sancte gabriel o a p o s

For Stamp see page 111.

The imperfect conclusion of the inscription is intended for ora pro nobis.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that they had neither "handbels nor sacring bell" in Queen Mary's time.†

See under Sibsey for a tradition as to bells here.

STICKNEY.

S. Luke. 4 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1, 2. REVD R. LOXHAM RECTOR J. NORTON C. W. J. BRIANT & J. CABOURN HERTFORD FECERUNT 1803.

(Diams. 32½, 33½ in.)

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 146.

3. huius sc̄i mathei [□ 125 ▽ 124.]
(Diam. 35½ in.)

4. MY ROARINGE SOUNDE DOTH WARNING GIVE THAT MEN CANNOT HEARE ALWAYS LYVE 1607 [□ 113.]
(Diam. 39 in.)

Priest's Bell:—

Blank.
(Diam. 14½ in.)

For Stamps see pages 112 and 111, and *Plate XVI.*

In 1553 there were here "iij [?] great bells & one saunce bell."* Of those ancient bells one only now remains—the present 3rd—which bears the same stamps as those upon the 1st bell at Bassingthorpe (see p. 304).

The Rev. Robert Loxham (see 1st bell) was of S. John's College, Cambridge; B.A. 1779: M.A. 1782; he was Vicar of Hagnaby (presented in 1782) as well as Rector of Stickney-cum-Stickford, to which livings he was instituted in 1786. He died at Stickford in the year 1828.

STIXWOLD.

S. Peter. 2 Bells.

1. . . . . Sc̄e Katīne.
(Diam. 32 in.)

2. JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER FRANCIS GREENFIELD CHURCHWARDEN 1829.
(Diam. 35 in.)

In 1553 there were here "iij gret bells & a sanctus bell;"† of those the present 1st is the only one remaining. The difficulty of reaching it prevents a more perfect description.

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{54}$, P. R. Off. This indented inventory is so much faded that the number of bells cannot be read with certainty.

† *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

STOCKWITH EAST.

S. Peter. 1 Bell.

1. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1846.
(Diam. 24 in.)

STOKE NORTH AND SOUTH.

SS. Andrew and Mary. 5 Bells.

1. EX DONO EDMVNDI TURNOR EQVITIS AVRATI XIIII DIE MAY 1670.
(Diam. 29 in.)

2, 3. [+ 106] GOD SAVE OVR QVEENE 1600 [□ 113.]
(Diams. 31, 34 in.)

4. GOD SAVE HIS CHURCH. T. MUSSON J. INGLETON T. LINCOLN, WARDENS 1710.
(Diam. 37 in.)

5. [+ 106] GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH OVR QVEENE AND REALME AND SEND VS PEACE IN CHRIST AMEN 1600.
(Diam. 40 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XV.* and *XVI.*

Sir Edmund Turnor, knight, the donor of the 1st bell, married Margaret, daughter of Sir John Harrison, and through her became possessed of the Manor of Stoke. He was in other ways a benefactor to this church and parish. He died 4th April, 1707, in his 88th year, and was buried in the church in a handsome tomb erected there by himself in his life time.*

* See Turnor's *Grantham*, p. 135-145.

STOW.

S. Mary. 5 Bells.

1. JOHN BROWN CHURCHWARDEN 1770.
(Diam. 30 in.)
2. JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON FOUNDER 1805.
(Diam. 30½ in.)
3. IESVS BEE OVR SPEED 1663 [□ 157.]
(Diam. 33 in.)
4. [□ 109] SCE [+ 111] MICAEL [□ 112.]
(Diam. 35 in.)
5. ALL MEN THAT HEAR MY MORNFUL SOUND REPENT BEFORE YOU LY IN ƆROUN W & C 1762.
(Diam. 38¾ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXIII.*, and *XVI.*

Two great bells were given to the church of Our Lady at Stow, in the eleventh century either (for authorities differ) by Alfric, Archbishop of York, or by his successor Archbishop Kinsius.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "the handbelles," which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, had been "broken in peces and sold to a tincker ano 1562."*

There is a rhyme used here comparing the bells with those in some neighbouring parishes thus:—

Marton's cracked pancheons,
And Torksey egg-shells;
Saxilby ding-dongs,
And Stow-Mary bells.

In the church chest is preserved a manuscript book written by William Swift, once a schoolmaster here: it contains, amongst a variety

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 147.

of subjects, conundrums, charades, and mathematical puzzles; also a short treatise on bell-ringing entitled

Campanalogia
or the Art of Ringing made easy, by Plain
and methodical Rules and Directions,
whereby
The Ingenious Practitioners may obtain
to the Knowledge of Ringing.

He was also the writer of the following, which used to hang in a frame in the ringing chamber:—

Articles And Orders To Be Observd By Ringers.

	s.	*d.*
All you who hath a mind to Larn to Ring		
Must to the Sexton Admission money Bring	2	6
Those Articles observed Strict must be		
Or your expelled this Society		
Two Nights a Week Sirs, you must meet, or pay		
This Forfiture to us without delay	0	2
Or when the Sexton for you tools a Bell		
You must appear, or else this Forfit tell	0	2
And when you come upon this Bellfrey		
If that you Noise or talk, this Forfeit pay	0	1
When you Round peals can Ring, you must pay down		
To be a change man Sirs, Just half-a-crown	2	6
On the first change that you have Learnd to Ring		
One Shilling more must pay Sirs, that's the thing.....	1	0
And every Ringer must spend more or Less,		
As he thinks meet, to wish you good Success.....	0	2
If you would Learn to prick a peal in score		
Unto those Colledge youths you must pay more	1	0
When you know Bob, Hunt, Single, Dodge compleat		
You'll not deny our Colledge youths a Treat	2	6

On our Feast day, the Twenty ninth of May,
Each member must, Sirs, just one shilling pay 1 0
Where our accompts are passed Sirs for Truth
And you are stiled then a Colledge youth
New Stewards then are chose,—and, by the by
If that you do the Stewardship deny
Your fine must pay—as in the margin see 1 6
Then from your Stewardship one year are free.
Those Rules peruse well before you enter
Its a hard task on which you venture.
When once a member you are freely made
Those Articles must justly be obey'd.
So now my Lads, admission money bring 2 6
And we will Learn you presently to ring.

John Marshall — Master.
William Swift — Notary.
March the 1st 1770.

By the side of these Rules were figures to guide the ringers in ringing a peal of "Grandsires."

On another Card is:—

"We ring the quick to church, the dead to grave
Good is our use, such usage let us have.
Who swears or curses, or in chol'ric mood
Quarrels or strikes, altho' he draw no blood,
Who wears his hat, or over turns a bell
Or by unskilful handling mars a peal
Let him pay six pence for each single crime
T'will make him cautious 'gainst another time.
So, when the bells are ceased, then let us sing
God bless our Holy Church—God save the Queen."

There are several peal-boards.

580 STOWE [WITH BARHOLM].

S. MICHAEL.

The ancient chapel here was taken down about the year 1780, and its single bell was placed, not hung, in Barholm Church. It was subsequently removed, and, owing to a dispute, was broken.

581 STRAGGLETHORPE.

S. MICHAEL. 2 BELLS.

1. 1804.

(Diam. 18 in.)

2. THO^S OSBORN DOWNHAM NORFOLK FOUNDER 1790 :··

(Diam. 23 in.)

The 1st bell is said to have been given to the church by Mr. Mills of Beckingham, about fifty years ago: it had been his dinner bell, and was standing in the church for seven years before it was hung.

582 STROXTON.

ALL SAINTS. 3 BELLS.

1. GOD BE OUR SPEED THOMAS HEDDERLY FOUNDER 1773.
   (Diam. 27¾ in.; weight 4 cwt. 2 qrs.; note D sharp.)
2. ALL THINGS COME OF THEE AND OF THINE OWN HAVE WE GIVEN THEE A.D. 1879. J. TAYLOR & CO. FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH.
   (Diam. 30½ in.; weight 6 cwt. 26 lbs.; note C.)

3. TO THE GLORY OF GOD, AND FOR THE COMPLETION OF THIS MEMORIAL CHURCH A.D. 1879. THY BROTHER SHALL RISE AGAIN. J. TAYLOR & CO. FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH.
(Diam. 32½ in.; weight 7 cwt. 1 qr. 13 lbs.; note B.)

This church was rebuilt (except the old arcades) in 1874-5, as a memorial to the late Rev. P. J. E. Welby, Rector of the parish; the allusion on the third bell is to him, both the new bells (which are "maiden" ones; that is, cast in perfect tune) having been given by his relatives. There was only one bell (the present treble) previously.

STRUBBY.

S. Oswald. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 18 in.)

The ancient tower of this church contained three bells. When the tower was taken down some years ago the bells—or at least two of them—were sold. One now hangs in the new church of S. Peter, Cleethorpes; what became of the 2nd is not known; the 3rd was probably recast for the church here.

STUBTON.

S. Martin. 2 Bells.

1. [+ 116] IHESVS BE OVR SPEED 1618 [□ 113.]
(Diam. 28 in.)
2. GOD SAVE OUR KINGE 1616.
G. L.
(Diam. 32 in.)

For Stamps see page 107 and *Plate XVI.*

STURTON MAGNA.

ALL SAINTS. 1 BELL.

1. [□ 62 □ 69.]
(Diam. 29 in; cracked.)

For Stamps see *Plate VIII.*
In the year 1810 three bells belonging to this church were sold.

STURTON-BY-STOW.

S. HUGH. 1 BELL.

1. J. TAYLOR & CO. FOUNDERS 1879.
(Diam. 14 in.)

This Mission-room was opened on All Saints' Day, 1879.

SUDBROOKE.

S. EDWARD. 1 BELL.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 21 in.)

SURFLEET.

S. LAWRENCE. 5 BELLS.

1. T. BROWNIN TOBY NORRIS CAST ME [+ 1] JOHN SHARPE C.W. 1694.
2. [+ 2] OMИIA [□ 5] FIAИT [□ 5] AD [□ 5] GLORIAM [□ 5] DEI : : E : WARD : : P : PEDER : 1618 :
3. R CVRTIS TOBY NORRIS CAST ME [+ 1] WILLIAM [□ 5] WALKER [□ 5] C [□ 5] W [□ 5] 1625.

4. [+ 1] OMNIA : FIANT : AD : GLORIAM : DEI :
I : IACKSON : R : SMITH : 1607.
[+ 2] EDWARDVS HERON MILES BALNEI.
5. [+ 2] NON : CLAMOR : SED : AMOR : CANTAT : IN : AURE : DEI : IOHN : LOWES 1608.
(Diam. 40 in.)

For Stamps see pages 52 and 53.

The 3rd bell is cracked: all and the belfry are in a very dirty, unsatisfactory state; they are seldom used, as the tower and spire lean much, hence the local doggerel:—

Gosberton church is very high,
Surfleet church is all awry,
Pinchbeck church is in a hole
And Spalding church is big with foal.

The seat of the ancient family of Heron was Cressy Hall in this parish: they descended from Sir John Heron, Knight, Privy Councellor to King Henry VII. Sir Edward Heron, Knight of the Bath (see 4th bell), was the son of Sir Edward Heron, Baron of the Exchequer, and married Anne, daughter of Sir Henry Brooke, *alias* Cobham, Knight.

There is a tradition that on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. William Bird to Miss Ann Rose, in October, 1801, a wedding peal was rung here by females. This is probably true, for the Register records the marriage, on the 29th September, 1801, of W. Bird, widower, and Ann Rose, spinster.

SUTTERBY.

S. JOHN [BAPTIST?]. 1 BELL.

1. 1802.
(Diam. 18 in.)

SUTTERTON.

S. Mary the Virgin. 8 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. THE GIFT OF JOHN CABOURN J : BRIANT & J CABOURN HARTFORD FECIT AN : DOM : 1797.
(Diam. 30 in.)
2. RAISD BY SUBSCRIPTION THE HON^BLE & REV^ND CH. LINDSEY VICAR A CASH & G : HARISON C : W : JOHN BRIANT & JOHN CABOURN OF HARTFORD FECERUNT AN : DOM : 1797.
(Diam. 30 in.)
3. LEN^D BERRIDGE DD. VICAR THO^S BEALBY THO^S WILLSON C^H WARDENS BY SUBSCRIPTION T. OSBORN FECIT 1784 :: · LET EVERY THING THAT HATH BREATH PRAISE THE LORD :·
(Diam. 30 in.)
4. IESUS BEE OVR SPEED 1720.
(Diam. 33 in.)
5. HENRY PENN FOVNDER 1720.
(Diam. 34 in.)

6, 7. 1720.
(Diams. 37, 39¼ in.)

8. GEORGE : WALLIS : WILL : PICKWELL : JOHN : PEARSON : CHVRCHWARDENS 1720.
(Diam. 43½ in.)

Priest's Bell:—

[+ 20] SYMON : DE : HAZFELDE : ME : FECIT
(Diam. 12 in.)

For Stamp see page 70.

The only ancient bell here is the present Priest's bell, which was formerly the Sanctus bell; it hangs over the chancel arch. The ring

of bells is in excellent order, and the ringers have been noted as good ones for many years. Numerous tablets recording the ringing of peals hang in the belfry.

John Cabourn, the donor of the 1st bell, was a noted bellhanger; he died in 1813 (see p. 85).

The Hon. and Rev. C. Lindsay (2nd bell) was instituted in 1792; after a few years he was consecrated Bishop of Kildare.

The Rev. Leonard Beridge, D.D. (3rd bell), was instituted in 1779; died 1791, and was buried in Algarkirk Church.

The Churchwardens' Books contain numerous entries for bell ropes, &c., &c., and the following:—

1781.	July 8.	Bells finished half the estimate paid to John Cabourn	15 . 13 . 5
1783.	May 17.	The last half of the money by agreement for bells repairing	15 . 13 . 5
1801.	Paid Ringers: Preliminaries of Peace		1 . 10 . 0
1803.	Nov. 5.	Paid Ringers dinner & drinck	2 . 12 . 0
		[Several similar payments on 5th Nov.]	
1804.	May 29.	Paid Ringers	1 . 1 . 0
		[Similar payment in other years.]	
1840.	Ringers on Birth of Prince of Wales		2 . 10 . 0
1861.	Dec. 23.	Paid Ringers for a dumb peal upon the occasion of H.R.H. Prince Consort's funeral	15 . 0*

SUTTON-LE-MARSH.

S. Clement. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. [+ 18 ▽ 11] Sancte Thoma Ora Pro Nobis [▽ 13.]
(Diam. 30½ in.)

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* I am obliged to the Rev. Adam Clarke Rowley, Vicar of the Parish, for these extracts, and for other information,

2. 1628.

(Diam. 32¾ in.)

3. GOD SAVE THE KING 1629.

(Diam. 37½ in.)

For Stamps see page 68 and *Plate II.*

The 1st bell (which probably belonged to the previous church) has very small capitals to the black letter inscription: the other two bells were from the Nottingham foundry.

592 SUTTON LONG.

S. Mary. 6 Bells.

1—5. 1716.

(Diams. 28, 29, 30, 31½, 34½ in.)

6. HENRICVS PENN PETERBVRGENSIS FVSORE 1716.

(Diam. 39½ in.; turned.)

Here is a chiming apparatus, by Messrs. Jerram and Blackbourn, erected in 1878. The state of the belfry might be much improved.

593 SUTTON S. NICOLAS [or Lutton].

S. Nicolas. 5 Bells.

1, 2. JOSEPH EAYRE FECIT 1770. JOHN HARRISON CHURCHWARDEN.

(Diams. 23, 24 in.)

3. JOHN MARSHALL ADLER CRAPLEY GILBERT REDHEAD 1770.

(Diam. 25 in.)

4. JOHN HARRISON C. W. JOHN MARSHALL ADLER CRAPLEY GILBERT REDHEAD 1770.

(Diam. 26½ in.)

5. HARVEY BURGESS CHURCHWARDEN OSBORN AND DOBSON FOUNDERS DOWNHAM NORFOLK 1806.
(Diam. 29 in.)

These small bells are much out of tune; some think they would be better cast into one large bell.

SUTTON S. EDMUND.

S. Edmund. 1 Bell.

This church, erected about the year 1800, has one bell, which is probably of the same date.

SUTTON S. JAMES.

S. James. 3 Bells.

1. W^M DOBSON, FOUNDER, DOWNHAM NORFOLK 1824.
(Diam. 28 in.)
2. THOMAS [□ 5] WARDE [□ 5] VICAR [□ 5] [+ 2] MVLTI [□ 5] VOCATI [□ 5] PAVCI [□ 5] ELECTI [□ 5.]
(Diam. 30 in.)
3. [+ 2] CVM [□ 5] VOCO [□ 5] AD [□ 5] ECCLESIAM [□ 5] VENITE [□ 5] [+ 2] RICHARDE [□ 5] RENTVN [□ 5] WILLIAM [□ 5] DANYEL 1603.
(Diam. 33 in.)

For Stamps see pages 52 and 53.

SUTTON S. MATTHEW [or Sutton Bridge].

S. Matthew. 1 Bell and a Priest's Bell.

1. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1843.
(Diam. 41½ in.)

Priest's Bell :—

AMERIKA VON STRALSUND 1854.

The Priest's bell (formerly a ship bell) was brought here from Guy's Head.

SWABY.

S. Nicolas. 1 Bell.

Here is a small modern bell.

It is said that a bell with "some figures and letters upon it" was taken from the church some years ago, and hung at the school; but being cracked, it subsequently went to pieces, and had to be replaced by the present modern school bell.

SWALLOW.

Holy Trinity. 1 Bell.

1. J. WARNER & SONS FOUNDERS LONDON 1864.

In 1553 there were here "thre Gret belles & one Sanctus bell,* now poorly represented.

SWARBY.

S. Mary and All Saints. 1 Bell.

1. [+ 123] SIT NOME DNI BNDICTVM
[▽ 119]

(Diam. 29 in.)

For Stamps see page 111, and *Plate XVIII.*

On the bearer of the bellframe is cut:—J. C 1756.

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

SWATON.

S. Michael. 3 Bells.

1. REV^D JOHN SHINGLAR, VICAR; THO^S SMITH CHURCHWARDEN W. DOBSON FECIT 1824.
(Diam. 28 in.)

2. GOD SAVE KING IAMES 1611.
(Diam. 32 in.)

3. [+116] IN MVLTIS ANNIS RESONET CAMPANA IOANNIS 1596.
(Diam. 33 in.)

For Stamps see page 107.

In 1565-6 the churchwardens reported that "one handbell," belonging to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold to a pewterer.*

The present treble is the ancient tenor recast smaller in 1824, it being previously much damaged. The inscription on the 3rd bell—with an error in the proper name—is doubtless a copy of that on an older bell.

SWAYFIELD.

S. Nicolas. 3 Bells.

1. JOHN HARBIN RECTOR ✠ JOHN TODD & SAMUELL PRIDGMORE : C. W ✠ 1753 O T. EAYRE FECIT.
(Diam. 28½ in.)

2. [+2] OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI.
TOBIE NORRIS CAST ME 1625.
(Diam. 31 in.)

3. [+3] NON : SONO : ANIMABVS : MORTVORVM : SED : AVREBVS : VIVENTIVM 1613.
(Diam. 33½ in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 148.

For Stamps see page 52.

The Rev. John Harbin (see 1st bell) signed the Register as "Curate," "Minister," and "Rector," from 1746 to 1762. There is no entry of his burial.

SWINDERBY.

All Saints. 5 Bells.

1, 2, 4. J : TAYLOR & CO. FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1879.

(Diams. 23, 24, 28 in.)

3. [+ 58] ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

(Diam. 25 in.)

5. [+ 95] . . ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ [□ 97] ✠

(Diam. 30 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate VII.* and page 89.

Prior to 1879 there were three Bells only, namely the present 3rd and 5th, the then 1st and 3rd, and a 2nd inscribed :—

[+ 106] God save the chvrch 1605 [□ 113] R.G.

(Diam. 27 in.)

In that year the then 2nd bell, being cracked, was recast and two new bells added: £75 towards the cost was given in memory of the late Rev. W. C. Kendall, a former Vicar.

SWINESHEAD.

S. Mary. 8 Bells.

1. PERCUTE DULCE CANO. T. OSBORN FECIT W^M ELLIS SUBSCRIBER 1794.

(Diam. 30 in.)

2. T. OSBORN FOUNDER 1794.

(Diam. 31 in.)

3. CUM VOCO VENITE THO^{S} OSBORN FECIT 1794.
(Diam. 32 in.)
4. T. OSBORN DOWNHAM, NORFOLK, FECIT 1794.
(Diam. 33½ in.)
5. IN WEDLOCK'S BANDS ALL YE WHO JOIN WITH HANDS YOUR HEARTS UNITE SO SHALL OUR TUNEFULL TONGUES COMBINE TO LAUD THE NUPTUAL RITE. T. OSBORN FOUNDER 1794.
(Diam. 36½ in.)
6. OUR VOICES SHALL IN CONCERT RING IN HONOUR BOTH TO GOD AND KING T. OSBORN FOUNDER 1794.
(Diam. 37½ in.)
7. THO^{S} OSBORN FECIT DOWNHAM NORFOLK 1794.
(Diam. 41½ in.)
8. ROB^{T} UVEDALE, DD. VICAR, JOSEPH MASON W^{M} BREWSTER CHURCHWARDENS T. OSBORN FECIT 1794.
(Diam. 46 in.)

Prior to 1794 there were four bells inscribed:—

1. In multis annis resonet campana Johannis.
2. God be our speede.
3. God be our speede.
4. Ave Maria gracia plena, D̄nus tecum, benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus.*

SWINHOPE.

S. HELEN. 1 BELL.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 18 in.)

In 1553 there were at "Swynup" "ij Gret belles."†

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* *Harl. MSS.* 6829, fo. 224 † *Church Goods, Misc. Book*, 507, *Augm. Office*, P. R. Off.

SWINSTEAD.

S. Mary. 4 Bells.

1. [+ 2] OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI.
R MAXSEY I NICKOLS R KERK
THOMAS NORRIS CAST ME 1628.
(Diam. 28¾ in.)
2. ALEXANDER : RIGBY : MADE : ME : 1704 : EDWARD : SNART : CHVRCH : WARDEN.
(Diam. 31¾ in.)
3. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH W NIXSON WARDEN 1717.
(Diam. 34½ in.)
4. [+ 96] TRINITAS
(Diam. 37 in.)

For Stamps see pages 52 and 89.

In 1565-6 the churchwardens reported that "one handbell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, was "Broken and in the handes of Johnne Coy."*

The 3rd bell was from the Nottingham foundry. The inscription (as quoted) on the 4th is in large, bold, ornate gothic letters, like those on the 2nd bell at Normanton.

SYSTON.

S. Mary the Virgin. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 106] GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH 1638 [□ 157.]
(Diam. 27½ in.)
2. T. Mears of London Fecit 1821.
(Diam. 29½ in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 149.

3. T O B E [□ 91.]
(Diam. 32 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XV.* and *XXIII.* and page 87.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "the sacringe bell wth the handbells," belonging to the church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold and defaced.*

The intention of the four letters on the tenor bell is not apparent: possibly TOME for THOME was attempted. The horses of the Canterbury Pilgrims appear to have been supplied with small bells inscribed with the words "*Campana Thome.*"

TALLINGTON.

S. Lawrence. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. [+ 90] IOHANES [□ 91.]
(Diam. 30½ in.)

2. [▽ 124] a be ma ri a
(Diam. 33¼ in.)

3. [+ 15] Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum [+ 17] I O S
(Diam. 36 in.)

Priest's Bell:—

Blank.
(Diam. 12¾ in.; cracked.)

For Stamp see pages 87 and 111 and *Plate II.*

The small bell—most probably the ancient sanctus bell—hangs in its cot at the east end of the nave. It was originally rung by a lever projecting from the stock eastward, a chain or rope from which descended into the chancel. There is now no means of ringing. There are grooves on each side of the interior of the bell-cot, and the bottom stone is hollowed out, as though for the working of a larger bell, probably the predecessor of the present one. The form of the bell shows

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 149.

it to be ancient; holes have been drilled through the shoulder, and a staple clumsily inserted, to which the clapper is attached by a S shaped iron hook. The old parish clerk, recently deceased, remembered this small bell "kicking about the church for some years:" it was replaced in its cot by the Rev. White Bates, a former Vicar.

TATHWELL.

S. Vedast. 1 Bell.

1. 1790.

(Diam. 20½ in.)

TATTERSHALL.

Holy Trinity. 5 Bells.

1. SOLI : DEO GLORIA : IN : EXCILSIS : 1752 DANIEL : HEDDERLY : FOVNDER O

(Diam. 30½ in.)

2. THO PECOCK C W : DANIEL HEDDERLY FOVNDER 1752.

(Diam. 30 in.)

3. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1857.

(Diam. 34 in.)

4, 5. [× *] TOBIAS NORRIS CAST MEE 1691.

(Diams. 38, 40 in.)

* The Stamp on the 4th and 5th bells is a rough S. Andrew's cross.

TEALBY.

All Saints. 4 Bells.

1. [+ 111] HVIVS [□ 110] VVVLFRIDII [▽ 119.]

2. Nomen Domini Benedictum [□ 33 ▽ 30.]

4 S

3. [+ 60] IHESVS BE OVR SPEDE 1596 TA TP IL.
4. GOD SAVE HIS CHURCH THOMAS BEVERLEY CHURCHWARDEN 1704.

For Stamps see *Plates XVI.*, *XVIII.*, and *III.*, and page 77.

In 1553 there were here "iiij grete belles one sanctus bell."* Of those ancient bells two still remain: the present 1st with a somewhat unusual dedication, and with a "Royal Head," and the 2nd. The other two have been recast.

TETFORD.

S. Mary. 3 Bells.

1. THOMAS SUTTON CHURCHWARDEN 1794.
(Diam. 31½ in.)
2. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1617.
(Diam. 36 in.)
3. [+ 121] Sancta Maria ora Pro nobis [▽ 119.]
(Diam. 39 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XVIII.*

In 1552, when the Inventory of Church Goods belonging to this parish was drawn up, the following entries describing the bells and their value were made:—

Itm̃ iij bells ..... xiij*li.*
Itm̃ one lytle bell ij handbells one pare of sencers & ij candylstycks ..... xx*s.*†

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "one handbell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, was "sold and gone."‡

The tenor bell from Fulletby is traditionally believed to have been sent here (see p. 408), but the present bells compared with the Edwardian Inventory does not confirm that idea.

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

† *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 78, P. R. Off. ‡ Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 151.

TETNEY.

SS. Peter and Paul. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. CVM VOCO AD TEMPLVM VENITE 1700.
(Diam. 27 in.)
2. BEATVS EST POPVLVS QVI EXAVDIT CLANGOREM 1700 [□ 168.] (S.S. Ebor. sc.)
(Diam. 30 in.)
3. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1823.
(Diam. 34½ in.)

Priest's Bell:—

Blank.
(Diam. 8½ in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XXIV.*

In 1553 there were here "iij greatt belles j sanctus bell."*

It is currently reported, and the report is said to be perfectly true, that the Priest's bell here was sent out of the parish to adorn a "Hermitage," built by Bishop Tomline, at a house of his at Riby, near to Grimsby. It was, however, badly packed, and, in the carrier's cart, gave tongue in a way which attracted notice. So the good people of Tetney, when they missed their bell, had no difficulty in tracing it to Riby. There was naturally a hubbub, and the bell was returned. Some amusing verses were written at the time on the incident.

TEMPLE BRUER.

S. John Baptist. 1 Bell.

Here is a small modern bell placed in the new church erected in 1874.

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

There is a tradition, often repeated, as to the finding in the last century of three bells of large dimensions in an ancient well to the west of the site of the Temple buildings. I have failed to verify the truth of the tradition.

THEDDLETHORPE ALL SAINTS.

ALL SAINTS. 6 BELLS.

1. JOHN SMYTH ⁝ CHVRCH WARDEN 1717.
(Diam. 28½ in.)

2. 1825.
(Diam. 30 in.)

3. DANIEL HEDDERLY MADE ME IN 1749.
(Diam. 33 in.)

4, 5. Blank.
(Diams. 34, 37 in.)

6. HONORI : DEI : ET : HUJUSCE : USUI : HÆ : SUNT : CAMPANÆ ⁝ HEN : PENN : FVSOR ⁝ 1717 □ ⁝
(Diam. 41 in.)

The Churchwardens' Accounts for 1722, and several subsequent years, show that the cost of the casting of the 1st and the tenor bells in 1717 was a heavy one upon the parish. The Accounts for that year cannot now be found. The following entries in a later Book refer to the new 2nd bell, dated 1825 :—

1826.	July 6.	Carriage of new Bell to Louth	0 . 7 . 9
		Bell & materials fetching	0 . 6 . 0
		P^d Mr Harrison in p^t for new Bell.....	31 . 0 . 0
		For getting Bell into Cart	0 . 2 . 6
		Old Bell ret^g to Louth	0 . 6 . 0

THEDDLETHORPE S. HELEN.

S. HELEN. 3 BELLS.

1. Tho Per sono Pulsatus Maria Debet bocitatus.
(Diam. 33½ in.)
2. [+ 66] Caterina pia protegas nos A nece dura.
(Diam. 37 in.)
3. [+ 66] Virgo coronata duc nos ad regna beata.
(Diam. 40½ in.)

For Stamp see *Plate VIII.*

The canons of these bells (which have been turned) are gone: the inscription on the 1st is unintelligible.

THIMBLEBY.

S. MARGARET. 1 BELL.

1. ·:· WILLIAM CAREY ·:· C : W :· ANNO : DOM ·:· 1744.
(Diam. 14¾ in.; height 12½ in.)

In 1744 the fine ancient church of this parish was taken down, and an unsightly attempt at a "classic" structure erected in its place. To help in defraying the expenses a ring of six bells was sold to some other (now unknown) churches in the county. The whole work was effected by the William Carey, then churchwarden, whose name is upon the present bell—probably a recast of one of the old ring.

THORESBY NORTH.

S. HELEN. 3 BELLS.

1. REVD SAMUEL YORKE RECTOR REV. MILES MYERS CURATE JOHN PARKER Church Warden 1792 JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON FOUNDER.
(Diam. 33¾ in.)

2. [+ 116] GOD SAVE OVR KING 1605.
(Diam. 36¼ in.)

3. In Multis Annis Resonet Campana Iohannis [□ 28 □ 33 ▽ 30.
(Diam. 39¼ in.)

For Stamps see page 107 and *Plate III.*

In 1553 there were here "iij gret belles j Santus bell,"* one of which still remains.

"The Revd Samuel Yorke A.B. [see 1st bell] was inducted to the Rectory of North Thoresby by the Revd Mr Myers on Saturday the 18th March 1786."†

For a local saying about these bells see under Hawerby.

THORESBY SOUTH.

S. Andrew. 1 Bell and a Priest's Bell.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 25 in.)

Priest's Bell:—

Blank.
(Diam. 12½ in.)

THORESWAY.

S. Mary. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 12½ in.)

In 1553 "Thorsway" possessed "iij gret belles & one sanctus bell,"‡ now sadly represented by the present insignificant single ting-tang.

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off. † *Par. Reg.* ‡ *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

THORGANBY.

All Saints. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 14½ in.)

In 1553 there were here, as at Thoresway, "iij great belles & j sanctus bell . . "* now unfortunately lost to the church.

THORNTON.

S. Wilfred. 1 Bell.

1. 1763.

(Diam. 17 in.)

In 1553 there were here "iij gret bells."†

THORNTON CURTIS.

S. Laurence. 4 Bells.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 29 in.)

2. VENITE EXVLTEMVS DOMINO 1686 [□ 168.]

(Diam. 32 in.)

3. [□ 107] [▽ 127] O DEVS ABSQUE PARE FAC NOS TIBI DULCE SONARE 1592.

(Diam. 34 in.)

4. THE PRAISE OF GOD I SING AND TRIUMPH OF THE KING THE MARRIAGE IOYES I TELL AND SOUNDS THE DEAD MAN'S KNELL. J. LUDLAM ROTHERHAM FOUNDER 1761.

(Diam. 39 in.)

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

† *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off

For Stamps see *Plates XXIV.* and *XV.* and page 114.

The very excellent motto on the 3rd bell has not, it is believed, been met with elsewhere.

The Churchwardens' Accounts contain many charges for ringing "at gunpoulder treson"—"at new yearmas," &c., &c.; and there is a receipt for £16, dated 12th February, 1762, "in full of all accounts for Hanging and recasting of Bells at Thornton, haveing made them an abatement of £5 from Contract which was £30." This receipt is signed by "Row^d Winn," the then owner of the advowson, who, apparently, took the responsibility of the expense on behalf of the parish. He is mentioned in the Churchwardens' Accounts a few years previously thus:—

1754. Pad for Ringin for Sr Rowland Winn at lamas ... 00 . 9 . 9*

THORNTON-LE-FEN.

— ? 1 Bell.

This church, built in 1816, has one small bell.

THORNTON-LE-MOOR.

All Saints. 2 Bells.

1, 2. 1688.
(Diams. 18 in.; 19½ in.)

In 1553 "Thornton-in-the-More" possessed "ij greyt belles."†

The smaller bell was cracked when ringing for a wedding about fifty years ago. See p. 155. supra

* The Rev. G. Noel Storrs very kindly made these extracts for me.

† *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

THORPE S. PETER.

S. PETER. 3 BELLS.

1. Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum [▽ 27 + 28 ▽ 29.]
(Diam. 36 in.)
2. In Multis Annis Resonet Campana Johannis [▽ 29 + 28 ▽ 27.]
(Diam. 40½ in.)
3. MEMENTO MORI 1701 [O 7.]
(Diam. 44 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate III.* and page 59.
The capitals of the inscription on the 2nd bell are crowned.
There was formerly a Priest's bell here inscribed :—

When I call come to church 1691.*

THORPE-ON-THE-HILL.

S. MICHAEL [or all Saints]. 2 BELLS.

1. JOHN GIBSON & RICHARD FENELAY WARDENS 1851.
Taylor & Son Loboro.
(Diam. 27 in.)
2. [+ 172] IHESUS BE OUR SPEED 1612.
(Diam. 28 in.)

For Stamp see *Plate XXV.*

Prior to 1851 there were three bells: one was never used, not having had a rope for many years; it was sold to pay the cost of the casting of the present treble in 1851.

I am not quite certain as to the correctness of the description of the 2nd bell: the belfry is dark and dangerous.

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* Oldfield's *Wainfleet*, p. 295.

THRECKINGHAM.

S. Peter. 3 Bells.

1. [+2] THOMAS NORRIS MADE MEE 1660.
(Diam. 33 in.)
2. [+1] GOD SAVE HIS CHURCH 1615.
(Diam. 34 in.)
3. [+2] THOMAS NORRIS MADE MEE 1660 B.G.
(Diam. 38 in.)

For Stamps see page 52.

THURLBY [near Bourn.]

S. Firmin. 5 Bells.

1. MVSICAM DOCET AMOR. JOSH. CHALSWORTH VICAR THO. TROLLOPE ARMIGER DEDIT DECEM LIBROS 1714.
(Diam. 32¼ in.; cracked.)
2. HARMONIA NOSTRA EGO SUM SECVNDVS CONCORDIA VOS ESTOTE MILLI SECVNDI 1713.
(Diam. 34¾ in.)
3. BRYAN BROWNING CHURCHWARDIN EDWD ARNOLD LEICESTER FECIT 1790 O O
(Diam. 36¾ in.)
4. POST BELLVM VIGINTI ANNORVM RATÆ PACIS INTER ANNĀ ANGLORVM REGINĀ ET LVDOVIC 14 FRANCORVM REGE ANNO PRIMO SALVTIS VERO 1713.
(Diam. 39 in.; no canons.)
5. ME AVDITO VOS CREDITE DEVM CELITVS CONVOCARE SANCTOS AD ADORANDVM ILLVM IPSVM SOLVM. W. PRATT R THORP CH WARDENS 1713.
(Diam. 42 in.; no canons.)

These bells (excepting the 3rd) were from the Nottingham foundry.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "the sacringe bell," belonging to the church in Queen Mary's time, had been "broken for the reparacōns of the church by the plumar," and that "ij handbelles & the holie water fatte were melted at the castinge of two belles."*

Thomas Trollope, Esq., of Thurlby and Bourn, benefactor to the 1st bell, was the great grandson of William Trollope, Esq., of Thurlby, Bourn, and Casewick, the father of Sir Thomas Trollope, the first Baronet. Thomas Trollope married Mary, daughter of Sir William Craven, and sister of the first Lord Craven. He was also a benefactor to Bourn Church: he died in 1736, and his portrait is at Casewick.

The word MILLI on the 2nd bell is evidently the founder's mistake for NVLLI.

There is a noteworthy ancient railed ladder standing on a stone platform, with steps leading from the tower floor to the first chamber. The bells are exceedingly dirty, and much require care and attention.

THURLBY [NEAR NEWARK].

S. GERMAN. 3 BELLS.

1. [+ 28 ▽ 27 ▽ 29] SANCTE NICOLAE ORA PRO NOBIS
(Diam. 24½ in.)
2. DANIEL HEDDERLY FOVNDER 1733.
(Diam. 27½ in.)
3. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1630.
(Diam. 30 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate III.*

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 153.

TIMBERLAND.

S. Andrew. 6 Bells.

1, 2, 3, 5. ENOCH HILTON CHURCHWARDEN THO^{S} OSBORN DOWNHAM FECIT 1789. NORFOLK.

4. IN WEDLOCKS BAND ALL YE WHO JOIN WITH HANDS YOUR HEARTS UNITE SO SHALL OUR TUNEFULL TONGUES COMBINE TO LAUD THE NUPTUAL RITE. ENOCH HILTON CHURCHWARDEN THO^{S} OSBORN DOWNHAM NORFOLK FECIT 1789.

6. OUR VOICES SHALL WITH JOYFULL SOUND MAKE HILLS AND VALLEYS ECCHO ROUND. ENOCH HILTON CHURCHWARDEN THO^{S} OSBORN DOWNHAM NORFOLK FOUNDER 1789.

(Diam. 40 in.)

Prior to 1789 there were three bells only.

There is a tradition that an aged woman, who had lost her way in the Fens, recovered it by hearing the sound of the Timberland bells; and that as a thankoffering she left some land, the proceeds of which were to be devoted to buying and keeping the bell-ropes in repair. This land now realizes £45 a year, and out of it all church expenses are paid.

TOFT-NEXT-NEWTON.

SS. Peter and Paul. 1 Bell.

In 1553 there were, in the ancient church here, "ij Gret Belles."*

Here is now only a very small bell, without inscription or date, provided when the present church was erected early in the present century.

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

TORKSEY.

S. PETER. 3 BELLS.

1. I [▽ 32] D [+ 31] Vox Augustine Sonet Inaure Dei.
(Diam. 31 in.; cracked.)

2. [+ 28] Sancta Margareta Ora Pro Nobis [▽ 32 □ 33.]
(Diam. 33¾ in.)

3. WILLIAM TATTERSAY FRANCIS MAWER C. W. D : H : F : 1747.
(Diam. 38½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate III.*

The initials on the 1st bell may be those of the founder. The D : H : F : on the 3rd stand for those of Daniel Hedderly, Founder.

For a rhyme in connection with these bells see under Stow S. Mary.

Under the account of the Bells at S. Peter-at-Arches, Lincoln, will be found a charge by the Corporation of Lincoln, when the new bells were given to that church, in 1728:—

For carrying old Bells to Torksey ..... 0 . 15 . 0

Whether that entry means that the ancient bells from S. Peter-at-Arches now hang here, there is no further evidence to show.

TORRINGTON EAST.

S. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS. 1 BELL.

1. Blank (?)
(Diam. 26 in.)

TORRINGTON WEST.

S. MARY. 1 BELL.

1. FEARE GOD 1609.
(Diam. 30 in.)

TOTHILL.

S. Mary. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 21 in.)

In 1556 the churchwardens reported that "a sacring bell and a handbell," belonging to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold and defaced.*

TOYNTON ALL SAINTS.

All Saints. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 2] 1666.

(Diam. 27 in.)

2. ANNO DOMINI 1572.

I B

(Diam. 27½ in.)

3. cbm □ boco □ ad templbm □ benite 1615.

(Diam. 33 in.)

For Stamp see page 52.

In 1553 there were here "iij greate belles and Sanctus belles."†

TOYNTON S. PETER.

S. Peter. 2 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. [+ 140] S [+ 140 □ 107] S [+ 107.]

(Diam. 34½ in.; unhung.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 153. † *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{54}$, P. R. Off.

2. [+ 75] HEC [□ 76] CAMPANA [□ 76] PIE [□ 76] CAVSA [□ 76] SIT [□ 76] FACTA [□ 76] MARIE

(Diam. 37¾ in.)

Priest's Bell :—

1691.

(Diam. 13¾ in. ; unhung.)

For Stamps see page 118, *Plate XV.*, and page 79 ; and for the letters used on the 2nd bell see *Plates IX.—XII.*

In 1553 there were here "iij great belles one Santes belle."*

There is a vague tradition about a bell being stolen from hence when the church was once under repair, which receives some confirmation from the fact of one of the Edwardian bells being wanting.

TOYNTON HIGH.

S. JOHN. 1 BELL.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 12 in.)

TOYNTON LOW.

S. PETER. 1 BELL

1. Blank.

(Diam 10 in.)

The ancient church, which was taken down about the year 1811, had a tower and four bells. Three of those, with the lead from the roof, were sold, and so paid, it is said, the cost of the present insignificant

* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{54}$, P. R. Off.

building. The present bell is not one of the old bells, but one substituted for a cracked one since the present church was built.

TRUSTHORPE.

S. PETER. 3 BELLS.

1, 2, 3. H. OWEN RECTOR J^NO WILLSON W^M BLACKBOND CHURCHWARDENS. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1875.
(Diams. 29, 31, 34 in.)

The three ancient bells here were inscribed:—

1. + Sancta Johannes ora pro nobis.
2. [O 19] Sum roas pulsata mundi Catrina vocata.
3. [O 19] Per gentem Trusthorpe sit Petrus sonans in Trusthorpe.

TUPHOLME.

In a letter from Robert Goche, Receiver of the County, to the Commissioners for Lead and Bells, dated 14th May, 1556, occurs the passage:—

> I have spokin to my L. Willoughby for the belle remayninge in his handes at Tupholme beinge verie smalle ys content to paie for the same at your wourshipfull discretions.*

TYDD S. MARY.

S. MARY. 5 BELLS.

1. THO^S OSBORN DOWNHAM FECIT 1788.
(Diam. 31 in.)

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* *Land Revenue Records, Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{442}{16}$, P. R. Off.

2. T. OSBORN FECIT 1788.
(Diam. 33 in.)
3. PERCUTE DULCE CANO :··· THO^S OSBORN FECIT 1788 :··
(Diam. 34 in.)
4. THO^S OSBORN DOWNHAM NORFOLK FOUNDER 1788 :⁝:· · WILL^M FREEMAN CHURCHWARDEN.
(Diam. 37 in.)
5. CUM VOCO VENITE :·· WILL^M FREEMAN CHURCHWARDEN T. OSBORN FECIT 1788.
(Diam. 41½ in.)

Owing to a dispute with the ringers, who were in the habit of taking beer into the ringing chamber, which the Rector very properly would not allow, there was no ringing here for some time, and a chiming apparatus was fixed by Mr. James Jerram; but recently the bells have been put into good order, a new company of ringers formed, and change-ringing practised.

643 UFFINGTON.

S. Michael. 5 Bells.

1. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1865.
[*Royal* ▽ *Arms.*]
PATENT.
(Diam. 30½ in.)
2, 3, 4. [+ 2] THOMAS NORRIS MADE ME 1640.
(Diams. 32½, 34½, 37 in.)
5. [+ 1] THOMAS NORRIS MADE ME 1640.
(Diam. 41¼ in.)

For Stamps see page 52.

In 1565-6 the churchwardens reported that "a handbel," belonging to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold for the sum of

xiij*d.*, and was broken; and that another handbell "remayninge in ōr churche at this pnte tyme" had been "broken and knockt in peces."*

The ancient bells appear to have been recast when the tower was repaired in 1639; a new frame was made for six bells in 1865, when the treble was recast.

ULCEBY.

S. Nicolas. 5 Bells.

1, 2. EDMVND SMITH VICAR WILLIAM SMITH WILLIAM MAVLTBY CHVRCH WARDENS 1724 [□ 168.]

(Diams. 29, 31 in.)

3. TE DEVM LAVDAMVS E. S. VIC : W. S : W : M. CHVRCH WARDENS 1724 [□ 168.]

(Diam. 32 in.)

4. IESVS AE MY SPED AND 1588 [□ 155 □ 154 □ 153 □ 151.]

(Diam. 34 in.)

5. I sweetly toling men do call to taste on meats that feeds the soole 1606 [□ 113.]

(Diam. 38 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXIV.*, *XXII.*, and *XVI.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "one sacringe bell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had gone "we know not howe;" and that "ij handbelles" had been "broken in peces and sold to ōr Vicare."†

Edmund Smith (1st and 2nd bells) signs the Register as "Curate" until the year 1733. There is no entry of his burial.

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 154.

† Ib. p. 155.

ULCEBY [WITH FORDINGTON].

ALL SAINTS. 1 BELL.

The very small bell here is without inscription or date.

UPTON.

ALL SAINTS. 4 BELLS.

1. REV HUGH POINER VICAR 1790 WILLIAM INGHAM & GEORGE COOKE Church Wardens.
(Diam. 28 in.)
2. ANNO DOMINI 1787 R.G.
(Diam. 28½ in.)
3. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON
S. GREENSMITH } CHURCHWARDENS 1847.
J. DICKSON }
(Diam. 32½ in.; weight 5 cwt. 3 qrs. 16 lbs.)
4. EX DONO PAROECORVM GEORGIO FOTHERGILL VICARIO 1641.
(Diam. 34¼ in.; canons gone.)

The 1st bell was cast by James Harrison.

In 1553 there were here "iij grete belles j sans bell."*

The Rev. George Fothergill (see 4th bell) is first mentioned in the Register in 1637, and last in 1641.

USSELBY.

S. MARGARET. 1 BELL.

1. 1670.
(Diam. 12 in.)

In 1553 there were here "ij greyt belles."†

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off. † *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

UTTERBY.

S. Andrew. 3 Bells.

1. TE DEVM LAVDAMVS 1725 [▫ 168.]
(Diam. 25 in.)
2. GLORIA IN ALTISSIMIS DEO 1725 [▫ 168.]
(Diam. 27 in.)
3. DANIEL HEDDERLY FOVNDER ROBERT BEAMOVNT C.W. 1752.
(Diam. 30 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXIV.*

WADDINGTON.

S. Michael. 5 Bells.

1. ED. COVLSON OF WADDINGTON CAVSED MEE FOR TO BE RUN.
(Diam. 28 in.)
2. [+ 3] GOD SAVE OVR QVENE.
(Diam. 30 in.)
3. [+ 3] IHESVS BE OVR SPEDE.
(Diam. 33 in.)
4. [▽ 124] SC̄E IOHN̄S BAPTISTE
(Diam. 35 in.)
5. ALL MEN THAT HEARE MY MVRNEFULL SOVND REPENT BEFORE YOV LYE IN GROVND 1658.
[▫ 157.]
E COLSON W HAMMOND WARDENS.
(Diam. 40 in.)

For Stamps see pages 52 and 111 and *Plate XXIII.*
The "Ed Covlson" on the 1st bell is the "E Colson" on the tenor.

WADDINGWORTH.

S. Margaret. 1 Bell.

1. T. JOHNSON HULL 1832.
(Diam. 21½ in.)

In 1553 "Waddyngworthe" possessed "ij grett bells."*

WADINGHAM.

S. Mary. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. DANIEL HEDDERLY MADE ME IN 1741.
(Diam. 31½ in.)
2. [+ 83 □ 82 □ 81 ▽ 80 □ 81] SOS PETRE O P N
(Diam. 33 in.)
3. REMEMBER DEATH 1713 [O 7.]
(Diam. 37 in.)

Priest's Bell:—

Blank.
(Diam. 12½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XIV.* and page 59.

In 1553 "Waddyngham" possessed "iij gret belles and one sanctus bell."† One of those bells still remains—the present 2nd—which is of a curious, and probably rather late, type.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that they had neither Sacring bell nor handbell in Queen Mary's time.‡

WADINGHAM.

A second church dedicated to S. Peter formerly stood in the same

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

† *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{33}$, P. R. Off. ‡ Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 156.

churchyard as S. Mary's. In 1553 it possessed "ij greyt belles and one Santus belle."*

In 1566 the churchwardens of "Waddingha' Sancte Peters" reported that "one handbell," which belonged to that church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold and broken in pieces, and that "one sacringe bell wch honge at a maypole toppe and what is become thereof we know not."†

WAINFLEET ALL SAINTS.

ALL SAINTS. 1 BELL.

There is now only one small bell here, placed in 1821.

In 1718 the wooden spire of this church was removed, and a brick tower erected, in which were placed five heavy bells. In 1820 (the building having gone rapidly to decay) the old church was taken down, and the materials used in the erection of the present edifice on a new site. The "five heavy bells" were then, I presume, sold; it is said that two went to Wainfleet S. Mary, and one to the church of Burgh [see under those churches].

WAINFLEET ALL SAINTS.

MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL. 1 BELL.

1. [+ 34] AVE MARIA GRASIA PLENA

(Diam. 20½ in.)

For Stamp see page 74.

This is most probably the original bell placed here in 1484 by the founder of the school, William Waynflete, Bishop of Winchester, and

* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 157.

founder of Magdalen College, Oxford. The date 1796 is on the frame, showing it to have been rehung in that year.

WAINFLEET S. MARY.

S. Mary. 6 Bells.

1. JOHN CHOLMELEY CURATE HENRY JOHN SEELY CH. WARDEN MARCH 1855. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON.
   (Diam. 28 in.)
2. JOSEPH MALLOWS OF EAST DEREHAM NORFOLK FECIT 1760.
   (Diam. 30 in.)
3. COME TO GOD'S HOUSE TO PRAISE HIS HOLY NAME THOSE THAT FORSAKE IT 'TIS A SIN AND A SHAME 1760.
   (Diam. 33 in.)
4. GOD SAVE HIS CHURCH 1620.
   (Diam. 34 in.)
5. JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER BARTON 1820.
   (Diam. 35 in.)
6. VITAM METIOR MORTEM PLORO. C. & G. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1855.
   (Diam. 42 in.)

In 1566 the churchwardens of "Wauphlett Maries" reported that "one hand bell," which belonged to this church, in Queen Mary's time, had been sold, and that "a sacringe bell" had also been sold, but whether then "defaced or not we do not knowe."*

Two bells are said to have been brought here from Wainfleet All Saints, when the church there was taken down in 1820; perhaps the 5th here represents them.

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 158.

The 1st and the tenor were previously inscribed :—

1. Adlard Thorpe and John Clarkson CWs Lester and Pack of London fecit 1761.
6. [The same and :—] S. Mary pray for us. To him that rings me high and well the tenor note I'l truly tell.

The invocation to S. Mary on the previous tenor bell was, no doubt, a copy of that on the ancient bell which preceded it: Oldfield in his *History of Wainfleet* (p. 76) asks whether such was the case, and adds: "or did some of the old leaven of popery remain unpurged in the heart of the inditer? Little did we expect to find the invocation of Saints on a bell, cast for the use of a protestant church in the middle of the eighteenth century." [!!]

On a grey stone near the chancel is the memorial of Adlard Thorpe (previous 1st and 6th bells) :—

> Under this stone there is a vault and
> therein lyes the Remains of Adlard Thorpe
> Gent. a Sinner and a Ringer, who departed
> this life on the 24th of January 1770 aged 58 years.*

The bells were rehung in an iron framework in 1844 when new wheels, &c., were also provided.

WAITH.

S. Martin. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 120] SCA ANNA [▽ 119.]
(Diam. 29 in.)

2. [+ 120] RVIVS SCI MARTINI [▽ 119.]
(Diam. 32 in.)

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* Oldfield's *Wainfleet*, p. 75.

3. [+ 111] S [▽ 119] HVIVS G [□ 110]
ABRIEL
(Diam. 35 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XVIII.* and *XVI.*

In 1553 "Waythe" possessed "iij grete belles."* Those still hang: they are a uniform set; all three have the same letters and shield. On the 3rd, after the letter G, is a Royal Head.

On the frame is:—

Francis Nettleship C. Wdn. 1737
Ja^s Harrison B. 1 hanger.

For a tradition as to these bells see under Grainsby.

WALCOT.

S. Nicolas. 4 Bells.

1. GOD SAVE THE CHURCH 1601.
(Diam. 27½ in.)
2. [+ 1] W. QUINCEY W. SMART C.W. TOBY NORRIS CAST ME 1687.
(Diam. 27 in.)
3. SCE MICAEL [□ 109.]
(Diam. 29½ in.)
4. [+ 111 □ 112 □ 110] IHS MARIA [□ 109.]
(Diam. 33¼ in.)

For Stamps see page 52 and *Plate XVI.*

The bells are (1879) about being put in better order. On the frame of 3rd bell are the initials I. M[eadows] C.W. 1797.

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

WALCOT-CUM-BILLINGHAY.

There was formerly a chapel here dedicated to S. Oswald. In a turret at the west end hung two bells, which were sold when the chapel was taken down late in the last century, and the proceeds given for parochial purposes.*

The present chapel-of-ease, erected in 1852, has one small bell.

WALESBY.

ALL SAINTS. 3 BELLS.

1. ihc nazarenus.
(Diam. 29¾ in.)
2. [+ 124] sca maria.
(Diam. 31 in.)
3. Mr Henry Handson Church Warden JAMES HARRISON OF BARTON FOUNDER.
(Diam. 33½ in.)

For Stamp see page 111.

In 1553 there were here "iij gret belles one Santus bell."†

WALTHAM.

ALL SAINTS. 3 BELLS.

1. VENITE EXVLTEMVS DOMINO 1698 [□ 168.]
(Diam. 32 in.)
2. TE DEVM LAVDAMVS 1713 WIL. STARK CHVRCH JOHN BRADY WARDENS [□ 168.]
(Diam. 34 in.)

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* *Sketches of Sleaford.* † *Church Goods, Misc. Book,* 507, *Augm. Office.*

3. JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER BARTON 1820.
(Diam. 39 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXIV.*

In 1553 there were here "iij gret belles & one Santus bell."*

WASHINGBOROUGH.

S. JOHN. 6 BELLS.

1. TIMOTHY PIKE GENT. BENEFACTOR [□ 85] 1713.
(Diam. 30 in.)
2. PROSPERITY TO OUR BENEFACTORS [□ 85] 1713.
(Diam. 30½ in.)
3, 4. [+ 116] IHESVS BE OVR SPEDE 1589 [□ 113.]
(Diams. 32, 34 in.)
5. [+ 116] IHESVS BE OVR SPEED 1589 [□ 113.]
(Diam. 37 in.)
6. I TO THE CHURCH THE LIVING CALL AND TO THE GRAVE DOE SUMMONS ALL [□ 85] 1713.
(Diam. 39½ in.)

For Stamps see pages 84 and 107 and *Plate XVI.*

Timothy Pike (see 1st bell) was also a joint founder of schools in this parish.

There is a tradition here that some of the bells came—or as others say were stolen—from S. Swithin's, Lincoln. There is nothing confirmatory of the truth of the tradition in the Parish Books.

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

WELBOURN.

S. Chad. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. [+ 162] Pax Abdientibus Me WS 1663.
(Diam. 30 in.)

2. sce laurenti [▽ 124.]
(Diam. 34 in.)

3. [+ 162] Sanctitas Domino FW WS 1663.
(Diam. 37 in; cracked.)

Priest's Bell :—

Blank.
(Diam. 13 in.; unhung in the church.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXIV.* and page 111.

The Priest's bell, which is unhung and in the church, has not been used within living memory. There is a little external bell-cote at the east end of the nave, where the Sanctus bell formerly hung.

WELBY.

S. Bartholomew. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 2] NON CLAMOR SED AMOR CANTAT IN AVRE DEI THOMAS NORRIS CAST ME 1628.
(Diam. 30 in.)

2. [+ 116] GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH 1636 [◻ 157.]
(Diam. 32½ in.)

3. DEORVM FILI DEI MISERERE IHS NAZARENUS REX
1744 THO. HEDDERLY FOVNDER
[◻ ◻ ◻ *For a description of these Stamps see p.* 131.]
(Diam. 34½ in.)

For Stamps see pages 52 and 107 and *Plate XXIII.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "ij handbells," which

belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold, defaced, and broken.*

WELL.

S. Margaret. 1 Bell.

1. [+ 25] VILELMVS [□ 26] DVD-DELAI [□ 26] FECIT [□ 26] ME
(Diam. 19 in.)

For Stamp see page 72.

This interesting little bell with its pretty initial cross is very difficult of access. Mr. Cresswell, on his first visit, was assured that the bell had neither inscription nor date, but, making a second visit, he, with the aid of a ladder, got through a small door in the eastern gable, and lantern in hand picked his way through the false roof to the bell in a small cupola swarming with bats and dreadfully filthy, at the west end, and so secured a very good rubbing.

WELLINGORE.

All Saints. 3 Bells.

1. BY FRIENDS TO COUNTRY CHURCH & KING I WAS RECAST AGAIN TO SING
GEO HEDDERLY FECIT NOTTINGHAM 1787 THOS ALLWOOD CHURCHWARDEN [□ 110.]
(Diam. 31½ in.)

2. [+ 172] MADE BY ME GEORGE LEE 1613.
(Diam. 35 in.; cracked.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 158.

3. IHS [▫ 136] OMNIVM [▫ 112 ▫ 110]
SANCTORVM [▫ 136 ▽ 137.]
(Diam. 39 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XVI.*, *XXV.*, and *XX.*

In the year 1810 the son of Mr. Woolfitt, a farmer then residing at Harmston, was ringing the Sermon-bell at this church: he suddenly desisted ringing, observing that the bell was so heavy he was quite fatigued. He died a few minutes afterwards in the churchyard.*

WELTON.

S. Mary. 6 Bells.

1. W S 1770.
(Diam. 28 in.)

2—5. 1770.
(Diams. 30, 32, 34, 36 in.)

6. WILLIAM STEEPER CHURCHWARDEN 1770.
(Diam. 39 in.)

In 1565-6 the churchwardens reported that "ij hand Belles . . . and one sacringe bell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold.†

The bells here were cast by Henry Harrison of Barrow. Although the Churchwardens' Accounts of that date are not preserved, there are sundry receipts and promissory notes in the Church Chest relating to the business, from which we learn that the parishioners paid him (at periods extending over two years) £92 for workmanship and £20 15s. for "addittional mettle." There is nothing relating to the ancient bells, which evidently were melted down at that time.

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* *Gent. Mag.* LXXX. (1810) p. 499. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 159.

WELTON-LE-MARSH.

S. Martin. 1 Bell.

1. THOMAS MEARS LONDON FECIT 1792.

WELTON-LE-WOLD.

S. Martin. 3 Bells.

1. Sancte Georgie Ora Pro Nobis [▽ 29 □ 28 ▽ 27.]
(Diam. 31 in.)
2. Sancte Necolne Ora Pro Nobis [▽ 29 □ 28 ▽ 27.]
(Diam. 34 in.)
3. DANIEL HEDDERLY CAST ME IN 1728.
(Diam. 34½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate III.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "ij handbelles," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, still remained in their hands not defaced.*

The 1st and 2nd bells are uniform in stamps and letters.

WESTBOROUGH.

All Saints. 4 Bells.

1. THO. HEDDERLY MADE VS ALL GOOD LVCK : ATTEND VS ALL 1752.
(Diam. 27½ in.)
2. WE WILL SING WITH A CHEARFVLL NIES 1752.
(Diam. 28 in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 160.

3. JOHN RIMINGTON WILLIAM PEPPER CHVRCH-WARDENS 1752.

(Diam. 30 in.)

4. THE CHVRCH'S PRAIS I SOVND ALL WAYS 1752 THO HEDDERLY FOUNDER.

(Diam. 32½ in.)

The spire fell, and the bells were so much injured that they were obliged to be recast, in 1752: the expense was shared by the two parishes of Westborough and Doddington Dry. The Churchwardens' Accounts here have the following entries:—

1752.	Charges at Newark about the bells and for the Article	0	4	8
	For careying the bells to Nottingham: half	0	5	3
	For fetching the bells home: half	0	10	6
	P^d^ half of Mr Hederley the Bell founder's bill	31	17	4
1753.	For Bell ropes half	0	11	0
	For four new Bell ropes	0	12	6

WESTON S. MARY.

S. Mary. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 2] CVM : VOCO : AD : ECCLESIAM : VENITE : 1613.

(Diam. 24 in.)

2. JOSEPH EAYRE S^T^ NEOTS FECIT 1769 JOHN HUTCHINSON CHURCHWARDEN.

(Diam. 27 in.)

3. ·:· OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI 1735 ·:· THO. EAYRE KETTERING FECIT.

(Diam. 29 in.)

For Stamp see page 52.

The bell-frames were repaired, and the chamber put into good order, in 1877.

WHAPLODE.

S. Mary. 5 Bells.

1. LAVDO : DEVM : VERVM 1718 HENRICVS PENN FVSOR.
[*Lion Rampant* ▽ ▽ *twice on waist.*]
(Diam. 31 in.; turned.)
2. ET : CLAMOR : AD CÆLOS 1718.
(Diam. 33 in.; turned.)
3. + VT : MVNDVS : SIC : NOS : NVNC : LÆTITIAM : NVNC : DOLOREM : 1718.
(Diam. 35 in.; turned.)
4. IAC : BOLTON : GVLS : ONE : CWS. PLEBEM : VOCO : CONGREGO : CLERVM 1718.
(Diam. 38 in.)
5. IOH : RVSTAT : VICAR. DEFVNCTOS : PLANGO : VIVOS : MONEO 1718.
[*Lion Rampant* ▽ ▽ *twice on waist.*]
(Diam. 42 in.; turned.)

Here is a Peal-board dated 1775.

WHAPLODE DROVE.

S. John Baptist. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 1] CVM : VOCO : AD : ECCLE-SIAM : VENITE : 1614.
(Diam. 20 in.)
2. [+ 2] OMNIA : FIANT : AD : GLORIAM : DEI : 1615.
(Diam. 22 in.; cracked; unhung; stands in nave of church.)
3. [+ 2] THOMAS NORRIS MADE MEE 1656 HC IC.
(Diam. 24 in.)

For Stamps see page 52.

The Rev. Canon Moore, F.S.A., of Spalding, has in his possession

a small handbell which he, some years ago, purchased from the crier's hands in this place: see page 203 for a description of it.

WHITTON.

S. John Baptist. 3 Bells.

1. DANIEL HEDDERLY MADE WE IN 1742.
(Diam. 24 in.)

2. JOHN WALKER C.W. 1742.
(Diam. 25¾ in.)

3. [+ 37] MARIA [□ 39] MATER [□ 39] DEI [□ 39] EST [□ 39] NOMEN [□ 39] MEUM [+ 37.]
(Diam. 30¼ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate V.*, and for a specimen of the letters on the 3rd bell see fig. 175, *Plate XXVI.*

The Rev. J. T. Fowler, F.S.A., who visited these bells, writes:—

> The 3rd bell is said to have been brought from Welton on the other side of the Humber, and the tradition is confirmed by the fact that there is still at that church a bell precisely similar to this in the lettering, &c. This inscription at Whitton presents the peculiarity of two crosses close together, where the beginning and end of the inscription approach each other. It possesses a peculiar interest in the writer's mind as being the first bell inscription to which his attention was ever directed. This was on August 1st, 1845, when he helped his father to make a rubbing of it.

WICKENBY.

SS. Peter and Laurence. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. WILL SMYTH ROBMAN WILLIAM RANOR 1738.
(Diam. 21¾ in.)

2. SAMVEL BACHELER RECTOR JOHN THOMAS C.W. 1738.

(Diam. 22¾ in.)

3. DANIEL HEDDERLY MADE VS ALL IN 1738.

(Diam. 26 in.)

Priest's Bell:—

Blank.

(Diam. 10½ in.)

The Priest's bell has not been used within living memory.

"Samuel Batchelor A.B. [see 2nd bell] was inducted into the Rectory of Whickenby on the 20th day of August 1737 by the Rev. Mr Lily of Linwood, whose patron was Mrs Alice Rothwell of North Collingham in the county of Nottingham."*

"The Rev. Mr Batchelor Rector of Whickenby buried May 11 [A.D. 1741]."†

WIGTOFT.

SS. PETER AND PAUL. 5 BELLS.

1. GRATA SIT ARGUTA RESONANS CAMPANULA VOCE T. EAYRE FECIT 1750.
2. OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI 1750 T. EAYRE DE KETTERING FECIT ✠
3. GLORIA PATRI FILIO ET SPIRITUI SANCTO ✠ A.D. 1750 OMNIA FIANT AD GLORIAM DEI.
4. GLORIA PATRI FILIO ET SPIRITUI SANCTO THO EAYRE DE KETTERING FECIT ✠ 1750.
5. GEORGE FERNE VICAR ✠ JOHN TURNER & JOHN PAKEY CHURCHWARDENS 1750.

(Diam. 35 in.)

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* *Par. Reg.* † Ib.

There is an iron plate in the bell-chamber, from which we learn that the bells were rehung in 1858. The cage is arranged for six bells: it is hoped the ring may sometime be made that number.

The Churchwardens' Accounts of this parish had the following entries (amongst others) relating to the bells:—

1484-6. In the first paide to John Cony for making of a newe belle whele	0	4	10
Item in expences done of the same John for his dyner	0	0	3
Item paid for repacion of irren wark, that is to say gogeons, Keye, and what ye warkman's hire to dresse the grete belle	0	1	8
Item paide for femble [hemp], and for makyng that of in bell ropes	0	1	5
Item paide for neweshotyng [forging] of the grete bell claper	0	3	3
Item paide for shoting of the middell bell claper	0	1	0
Item paide to Ric. Michell and to Ranlot Wright for mendyng of the tymbwark of all the bells, and for their bordyng [food]	0	1	4
Item paide for . . . . . and for shotyng of an irren bolte to the forbell whele . . .	0	0	6
[There were now 3 bells—fore, middle, and great—and a Sanctus bell.]			
Item paid for hespes and stapulls to the bells	0	0	10
Item paide for trussyng of the forbell and for the sanctus bell [&c. &c.]	0	2	3
Item paide to Agnes Grymston for 11 lbs. brasse of hir boght to the bolsters to all y^e^ belles p^r^ of y^e^ lb $1\frac{1}{2}^{d}$	0	1	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Item to John Tynker in arnest for to make the bolsters to the bells, and for his comyng hidder and for fewell	0	1	0

Item paid for 100 nailes to the bells ..... 0 . 0 . 2
Item in expenses in hiryng of Thomas Tynkir of Gosberkirk [now Gosberton] at 2 tymes for the makyng of the said bolsters ..... 0 . 0 . 8
Item paide to John Harby and to Will. his broder for 15 days wirkyng upon the bells in makyng of the crosse tristles . . . . . takyng by the day they bothe 5d with 4d more att alle ... 0 . 6 . 7
Item paide to the saide Thomas Tynkir for makyng of 6 bolsters of brasse to all ye belles ... 0 . 5 . 8
Item paide to John Almonds for a stone femble to the bell stryngs [or ropes]..... 0 . 0 . 5
Item paide for makyng that of in ropes for the belles 0 . 0 . 4
Item paide to Edward Smyth of Sutterton for makyng of all the claspes of irren and an ere to ye for bell [perhaps an "ear" in connection with the baldrick] ..... 0 . 0 . 8

1487-9. It' sol. edwarde Smythe for yryne warke to ye bellys ..... 0 . 2 . 4
It' sol. Ioh. herwy for dressyng of the sayd bellys 0 . 0 . 8
It' sol. Alice brige for the bord of the sayd Joh. herwy..... 0 . 0 . 4

1500. It' for ye Clapr of ye grett beyll..... 0 . 2 . 0
It' payd for shotyng of ye sainctys belle..... 0 . 0 . 10

1507. Itm̃ payd for heyngyng of ye second bell ..... 0 . 0 . 6

1509. It' payd for ye Grett beyll clappur ..... 0 . 2 . 4
It' payd for ye Grett beyll yoke..... 0 . 1 . 4
It' payd to ye bell shottar for Rydyng heder ..... 0 . 0 . 10
Itm̃ payd to Tho. Beale for ledyng of ye beyll ... 0 . 5 . 0
It' payd for hors mett..... 0 . 2 . 0
It' payd for yockyng of ye beyll ..... 0 . 4 . 4
It' payd for ys bowrdyng ..... 0 . 1 . 0
It' payd Rob. Blancnay hangyng of ye beyll and yryn warke ..... 0 . 2 . 4

1513.	It' paide for Ale when ye grete bell was stryckyn	0	0	4
	It' paide for ye grette bell whele to Robt hungyng	0	5	4
	It' paide for bowstryng of the grete bell	0	0	4
	It' payd to Robt. hunyngam for trussyng of ye grete bell	0	0	8
1521.	It' payd for 2 buckull tongys for the bells	0	0	2
	It' payd for Whit ledd^r to ye same	0	0	1
	[Connected with the baldricks.]			
1525.	It' payd at Nottyngg [Nottingham] for ye forbell schottyng	1	6	0
	It' for expēsis to & fro, and for ye bell clap. schottyng	1	6	0
	Itm̃ for takyng downe ye seyd bell, & hangyng up again to costs & chargs y^t . . . . to Ric. caney, to mette & Wag . . .	.	.	.
1531.	Itm̃ Resavyd off Mr. vycar for pamet' to the bell	0	3	4
	Md. that we Robt. bryg and John Atkynson ye chyrch Wardons off Wygtoffth hasse payd to ye bellfound^r	1	13	4
	Itm̃ payd to Simon mone	2	0	0
1532.	Itm̃ payd to Deconson for bredd & halle at the dressyng of ye grett bell	0	0	4
1533.	Itm̃ payd to Symon moyn for hangyng ye Saintts bell, to meytt and Waygs	0	0	8
1535-1543.	The expenc and payment layd forth by John alison church maist^r, for the bell schottyng at Nottynggam			
	First for ye bell clapper	0	0	6
	Itm̃ for the shoyng of vj horses and for removis	0	1	8
	Itm̃ payd at Bottysforth for sope' and brekfast	0	0	10
	Itm̃ payd for the grysse of 9 horsis	0	0	8
	Itm̃ at Nottyngham for the mett of ye said horsis from Wedonsdaye at none unto Thursdaye at none	0	1	6
	Itm̃ for theer dyn'es	0	0	6

Itm for drynk to ye hands at castyng ye bell ..... 0 . 0 . 4
Itm for theer sopper at night & dyn' at thursday at none ..... 0 . 1 . 0
Itm for makyng of ye obligacion [*i.e.* Articles of Agreement with the founder] ..... 0 . 0 . 4
Itm for theer drynkyng by ye way to ward and froward ..... 0 . 0 . 4
Itm at thursday at nyght at potysforth [Bottesford] for ye sopper ..... 0 . 0 . 6
Itm for ye horsis mett 8d for John Sna'd breakfast 2d ..... 0 . 0 . 10
Itm for bryngyng ye bell Wele from boston ..... 0 . 0 . 2
9s 2d

1543. Itm paid for drynke wan we were at Swynshed to change ye bell ..... 0 . 0 . 2
Itm to nicoles bell for hengyng ye bell and for ale & brede at yt tyme ..... 0 . 0 . 5
Itm to henri daye for caryng ye bell to ye abbay [probably Swineshead] & bryngyng ye other home ..... 0 . 0 . 2*

The Rev. George Ferne (see 5th bell), Vicar of Wigtoft and Quadring, died at Boston, advanced in years, and long confined to his house by illness, on the 31st of January, 1790.†

WILKSBY.

All Saints. 1 Bell.

Here is only a small bell without inscription.

It is reported that the church bell of Wilksby hangs at Scrivelsby Hall, and that the bell now hanging here is the old dinner bell from thence of the Dymock family, who being, until recently, patrons

* Nichols' *Illustrations* (1797), pp. 77-87, 195-230. † *Gent. Mag.* LX. (1790), p. 182.

of the living and owners of the lordship of Wilksby, made the exchange. Supposing this report to be true, which it probably is, the loss to the church was not great, for a careful examination of the bell at the Hall at Scrivelsby shows it to be a small bell 14½ inches in diameter, and entirely devoid of any inscription, date, or device.

WILDSWORTH.

S. JOHN. 1 BELL.

1. A. B. 1632.
(Diam. 13¾ in.)

When this chapel-of-ease was built in 1838 the Priest's bell was brought from the mother church at Laughton and hung here: hence the bell is much older than the chapel.

WILLINGHAM-BY-STOW.

S. HELEN [OR S. PETER]. 3 BELLS.

1. [+ 165] GOD SAVE OVR KING.
(Diam. 29½ in.)
2. ROBERT JOHNSON CHARLES FALLOWS WARDENS 1660 [□ 157.]
(Diam. 30 in.)
3. GOD SAVE KING GEORGE NO 27 1714 [□ 7.]
(Diam. 34 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXIV.* and *XXIII.* and page 59.

There is a tradition at Lea that the people of Willingham-by-Stow bought the tenor bell of that parish, and that it now hangs here.

WILLINGHAM CHERRY.

SS. PETER AND PAUL. 1 BELL.

1. THOMAS BECK ESQ^R DONER 1752 D.H.
(Diam. 24 in.)

A monument in Willingham Cherry Church commemorates the donor of the bell as

> "Thomas Becke Esqr of Lincoln, Founder & Patron of this Church [which he rebuilt]; he died the 19th of October 1757."

The initials D. H. are those of the founder, Daniel Hedderly.

WILLINGHAM NORTH.

S. Thomas the Apostle (?) — 3 Bells.

1, 2, 3. ROBERT STAINBANK FOUNDER LONDON 1868.
(Diams. 35, 38, 41 in.)

In 1553 there were here "iij Gret belles one Saunctus belles."*

WILLINGHAM SOUTH.

S. Martin. — 3 Bells.

1. [+ 165] T WATAM R BVRNIT 1670 WS.
(Diam. 33⅝ in.)
2. [+ 116] In Noīe Ihu Ome Genu Flectatur [▽ 119.]
(Diam. 36⅜ in.)
3. [+ 172] GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1612.
(Diam. 40 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XXIV.*, page 107, and *Plates XVIII.* and *XXV.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "two handbelles," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold and defaced, and that "one sacringe bell" had been broken in pieces and defaced.†

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* *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

† Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 163.

There is a tradition that about a century ago one of the Vyner family was lost on the wolds in a fog, and found his way to South Willingham by the sound of the bells, which were ringing preparatory to Christmas; and that to mark his gratitude he left a charge upon some land as a dole for the poor of the parish. The tradition is probably founded on fact, for 13s. 4d. is still received annually.

WILLOUGHBY.

S. Helen. 6 Bells.

1. 1769. 1770.
(Diam. 28 in.)
2. 1770.
(Diam. 30 in.)
3. Harrison of Barrow Founder 1769.
(Diam. 30 in.)
4. 1769.
(Diam. 32 in.)
5. Edward Boyce & John Bycroft Church-Wardens 1769.
(Diam. 35 in.)
6. Samuel Drake Minister 1769.
(Diam. 38 in.)

The Rev. Samuel Drake was curate from 1754 to 1774.
These bells and the belfry are in a sadly filthy state.

WILLOUGHBY SCOT.

S. Andrew. 1 Bell.

1. + AVE : MARIA : GRACIA : PLENA : DOMINS : TECV
(Diam. 24 in.)

This bell being reached with considerable difficulty, I am unable to give a drawing of the initial cross.

WILLOUGHBY SILK.

S. Denis. 3 Bells.

1. J. T. BARSTON GRANTHAM 1825.
(Diam. 31½ in.)

2. IHS BE MI SPEDE [□ 111 □ 110 □ 109.]
(Diam. 32 in.)

3. BE HOLD □ SE THE PIRSON [□ 111] + WIFES [□ 154] ACT OF SILK WILOIBE [□ 112.]
[□ 113]
(Diam. 34½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XVI.* and *XXII.*

Bishop Trollope, in his *Sleaford* (p. 467), says (but there are evidently some errors) that the 1st bell was previously inscribed:—

Spedlie to God John Norris made me 1685.

See the 2nd bell at Ruskington and the 1st at Winthorpe for similar bells to the 2nd here.

The late Dr. Yerburgh of Sleaford, in his MS. notes upon these bells, says:—"We apprehend the bells were cast at one and the same period, and in that case that the Parson and wife who bestowed one of these bells were Rev. John Leigh & Elizabeth his wife." The intention of the inscription, however, appears to be to call attention to the act of the wife of the Parson of Willoughby: so she was the sole donor. The Rev. John Leigh, who married Miss Elizabeth Newlove of Helpringham (Dr. Yerburgh's supposed donors), was Rector from 1661 to 1682, but this bell is undoubtedly of an earlier date, as the letters, stamps, and form of inscription all indicate. It was probably cast at or about the same time as the 2nd bell, that is at the close of the sixteenth century.

WILLOUGHTON.

S. Andrew. 1 Bell.

1. James harrison Bell Founder 1799.
(Diam. 28½ in.)

In 1566 the churchwardens of "Willerton" reported that "a hand bell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold and "broken in peces."*

In an Inventory of the Church Goods, dated 31st October, 1752, occurs:—

"One Bell and one other Little Bell or tink-tank that's crack'd."

These two doubtless went to the founder in 1799, in exchange for the present bell.

WILSFORD.

S. Mary. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 165] GOD WITH VS H : T I : H CHVR WAR. WS 1664.
(Diam. 29 in.)

2. + I : TAYLOR · AND · CO · LOUGHBOROUGH
+ EX · DONIS · AD · ECCLESIAM · B · MARIA · V · DE · WILS-FORD · A · D · MVCCCLXII · I · P · B · YOUNGE · RECTOR · H · DIXON · CURATOR + FILI · VIRGINIS · REDEMP-TOR · MUNDI · AUDI · NOS
IHS
(Diam. 33 in.)

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 162.

3. [+ 111] SANCTE [▽ 119] PETRE ORA PRONOBIS

(Diam. 34 in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXIV.*, *XVI.*, and *XVIII.*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "ij handbells," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, were "solde to a puterer of Lincoln the iiijth yeare of this Quene her Reigne."*

In 1852 there were only two bells hanging: one had fallen some years previously, and tradition says that the parish clerk of the time bartered the old metal for snuff. In 1862 the present Rector gave a new bell to fill up the gap caused by that loss, and at the same time caused an entirely new frame for four bells to be erected.

WILSTHORPE.

— ? 1 BELL.

1. THOMAS STYLES CH. W. 1716.

(Diam. 17 in.)

There were formerly three bells belonging to this chapel, which was erected, in 1715, on a new site. One of these hangs as above; a second, 12½ inches in diameter, without inscription or date, and very much cracked, is in the coach house at Gretford Rectory; and the third was probably broken up, as pieces of bell metal were lying in the belfry a few years ago.

WINCEBY.

S. MARGARET. 1 BELL.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 12 in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 163.

The ancient church here had more bells when the Inventory of Church Goods belonging to it was made in 1552. The bells and their value were thus described:—

ffirst two bells in the Steple & one Sanctus bell..... xlvs.
It' one crosse of lattyng & ij handebells ..... ijs.*

The present church was erected in 1866: the single bell is most probably of that date.

WINTERINGHAM.

All Saints. 5 Bells.

1. ROBERT SAWYER C.W. 1741.
(Diam. 24 in.)
2. THO. ADAM RECTOR GREAT BENEFACTOR 1742. THO. BELL C.W.
(Diam. 24 in.)
3. THO. ADAM RECTOR AND GOOD BENEFACTOR.
(Diam. 25¼ in.)
4. VENITE EXULTEMUS DOMINO 1705 [□ 168.]
(Diam. 29 in.)
5. THAT EVEL [□ 154] THINKES [□ 152 □ 151.]
(Diam. 31⅛ in.)

For Stamps see *Plates XXIV.* and *XXII.*

In 1553 there were here "Tow greate belles on Sanctus bell."†

The Rev. Thomas Adam, the benefactor to the present bells, was the author of "*Private Thoughts on Religion*," and a sort of traditionary respect is still paid to his character in the parish.

The 5th bell has evidently been one of an earlier set. They are rather a poor light ring of bells.

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 78, P. R. Off.

† *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off.

Stukeley (*Iter.* p. 95) says, writing of Winteringham :—

"Where was a chapel: the bell of it now hangs in a wooden frame by the pillory, and makes a most rediculous appearance."

WINTERTON.

All Saints. 5 Bells.

1. [Inscription all chipped off.]
(Diam. 29 in.)
2. EX DONO THOMÆ PLACE GEN :
(Diam. 30½ in.)
3. DANIEL HEDDERLY MADE VS ALL IN 1734.
(Diam. 32⅛ in.)
4. RICHARD STUDLEY VIC : ROGER SAWYER WILLIAM MARTIN C : W. 1734.
(Diam. 35½ in.)
5. GLORIA DEO IN EXCELSIS GEORGE STOVIN ESQ. 1734.
(Diam. 38½ in.)

In 1553 there were here "iiij^or great bell j sanctus bell."*

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that the "sacringe bell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been defaced, and that "one handbell borrowed of John morelaie Thomas Crowther and Willm Chapma' the wch the' had agayne at the puttinge awaie of all papistrie and they have defaced it."†

The 1st bell has every appearance of having been cast at the same time as the rest. It is said that they were cast in the "Cattle-garth," near the church, and that there were previously six bells, but that there

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 164.

was not enough money to make a new ring of six. There was an old inn on the south side of the church, the "Six Bells," and towards the latter end of the last century this was kept by Isaiah Sowersby, who used to give the ringers ale to ring the bells stock-height, which he was very fond of hearing. This mode of ringing was long called "Old Isaiah's Peal." [J. T. F.]

Nothing is known of the Rev. R. Studley (4th bell) but that he was likewise Vicar of Alkborough and Whitton.

Mr. Edward Peacock, writing of a History of Winterton in MS., by De la Pryme, says:—George Stovin [see 5th bell] of Winterton, to whom this MS. belonged, as is evident by his signature on the cover and the autograph note at end, was a member of a gentilitial family that had long settled at Tetley in the Isle of Axholme. He died in 1780 at the age of 85, and was buried in the chancel of Winterton Church. No stone is now remaining to mark the exact spot.

The church suffered much in the Civil Wars, "for many years after the Restoration there was scarce a bit of glass in ye windows, or of lead upon ye Roof, or any good Timber about it. It lay almost open to all Storms, so that if either Rain or snow fell ye congregation were sure to suffer thereby. Thus it continued until that Mr Tho. Place [see 2nd bell] a most worthy gentleman of ye same Town & general Promoter of everything that is great and good began to commiserate its sorrowful condition, & repair ye same, which he so effectually promoted and performed, that in a few years all its Breaches and Craines were mended, its Roof most of it cover'd with new Timber and Lead, its windows new glaz'd, its floors new layd, its old seats turn'd into Oak Pews, its walls beautify'd, its Bells new cast, & its yard made Level Handsom and Neat, and most of this at his own propper costs and charges, so that it is now one of ye most Beautifull Churches in ye Country."*

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* *Archæologia*, XL. p. 223-241.

WINTHORPE.

S. Mary. 4 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

1. [+ 135] IHESVS BE OVR SPED 1595
[□ 110 □ 112.]
[□ 113]
(Diam. 33¾ in.)

2. [+ 120 ▽ 119] Antonius Monet Ut Campana Bene Sonet.
(Diam. 34½ in.)

3. I sweetly toling men do call to taste on meats that feeds the soole 1604 [□ 113.]
(Diam. 41 in.)

4. [+ 117] WP WM TG IR TWV 1604.
AP TG [□ 113.]
(Diam. 44 in.)

Priest's Bell:—

1695 [O 7.]
(Diam. 19¾ in.)

For Stamps see page 116, *Plates XVI.* and *XVIII.*, and pages 108 and 59.

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that "one handbell . . . Sacringe bell," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been "brokne and made awaie since the last vis'."*

WISPINGTON.

S. Margaret. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 123] AVE : MARIA : GRACIA : PLENA :
(Diam. 26¾ in.)

* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 165.

2. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1863.
(Diam. 28 in.)

3. [+ 66] Sancta Maria Ora Pro Nobis [▽ 68.]
(Diam. $31\frac{3}{4}$ in.)

For Stamps see page 111 and *Plate VIII.*

In 1553 there were here "iij great bells one sanctus bell."*

Two of those still remain: the other, as well as the Sanctus bell, had disappeared prior to 1853. In that year (when the church was rebuilt) there were only two bells: the present 2nd was then purchased by donations raised by the exertions of Mrs. Terrot.

WITHAM NORTH.

S. Mary. 3 Bells and a Priest's Bell.

[□ 107]
1. principio fine sonan sonus hic sit caterine.
[▽ 127]
(Diam. 33 in.)

[□ 91] HOPE [□ *] WEL [□ *] HAUE
2. [+ 90]
[▽ 99] [□ *] WE
(Diam. 37 in.; the stamps marked * are undistinguishable.)

3. Celorum xte placeat tibi rex sonus iste [▽ 127.]
(Diam. $39\frac{1}{2}$ in.)

Priest's Bell:—

Blank.
(Diam. 13 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XV.* and pages 114, 87, and 91.

The Priest's bell is not used; it has no rope.

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off.

WITHAM SOUTH.

S. JOHN. 2 BELLS.

1. ALL THO MY VOICE BE SHRILL & SMALL I SHALL
   BE HEARD ALOUD TO CALL
   PERCUTE DULCE CANO INTACTUM SILEO
   GEO. HEDDERLY OF NOTTINGHAM 1785.
   (Diam. 25 in.)
2. PERCUTE DULCE CANO INTACTUM SILEO
   GEO HEDDERLY OF NOTTINGHAM 1785.
   (Diam. 28 in.)

In 1565-6 the churchwardens reported that "two handbelles," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold, broken, and defaced.*

WITHAM-ON-THE-HILL.

S. ANDREW. 6 BELLS.

1. ·: 1831 :·
   'TWAS NOT TO PROSPER PRIDE OR HATE,
   WILLIAM AUGUSTUS JOHNSON GAVE ME:
   BUT PEACE & JOY TO CELEBRATE
   AND CALL TO PRAYER TO HEAV'N TO SAVE YE:
   THEN KEEP THE TERMS & E'ER REMEMBER
   MAY 29TH YE MUST NOT RING:
   NOR YET THE 5TH OF EACH NOVEMBER,
   NOR ON THE CROWNING OF A KING.
   (Diam. 31½ in.)

2, 3, 4. ·: 1831 :·
(Diams. 32¼, 34, 36 in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 168.

5. THREE OF THE 5 OLD BELLS CAST IN 1623, 49, & 74, WERE BROKEN AND THE FRAMES WORN OUT. THESE SIX BELLS WERE CAST AND PUT UP BY WILLIAM DOBSON, DOWNHAM, NORFOLK, 1831.

(Diam. 39¼ in.)

6. JOHN CHEALES VICAR, WILLIAM AUGUSTUS JOHNSON FEOFFEE OF WYTHAM CHURCH ESTATE, WILLIAM ANSELL JOHN GILLARD, CHURCHWARDENS, ROBERT SMITH, PARISH CLERK 1831 :·

(Diam. 43 in.)

In 1565-6 the churchwardens reported that "two handbelles," which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, "were sold . . . . in Aō 1559 to Martin Smythe a pewterer dwellinge in Stamford," and that "one sacringe bell" had been "broken and defaced."*

The history of the old ring is told on the present 5th bell. The present bells are said to be cast from the metal of five old bells from Peterborough Cathedral, purchased by William Dobson, the bellfounder, in 1831.

The Rev. John Cheales (see 6th bell) was appointed Vicar in 1820 and was succeeded by the Rev. Henry Johnson in 1835.

Thomas Johnson is stated to have been a landowner at Milton Bryant, Bedfordshire, in 34 Henry VIII. His descendant, the Rev. Woolsey Johnson, M.A., Vicar of Olney, Bucks., was also Vicar, as well as Patron and Impropriator, of Witham-on-the-Hill, and Rector of Wilby-next-Wellingborough. He built the Manor House, and enclosed the Park at Witham, in 1752; and dying at Olney on the 21st of April, 1756, he was buried at Witham. His grandson, the donor of the treble bell here, was Lieutenant-General William Augustus Johnson, Justice of the Peace and Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Lincoln, who was born at Kenilworth, Warwickshire, on the 15th of October, 1777.

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* pp. 166-7.

n appropriate sermon. Among the "things that have ound" special reference was made to the organ, which as undergone repair, having received damage during the ot weather. For this and for the bell offerings were nvited. At seven there was evensong, with sermon by anon Young (Rural Dean), followed by a *Te Deum* sung y the clergy and choir in front of the altar. The church as effectively decorated with corn, flowers, and grapes y Mrs. Dixon, Miss Glover, and the Misses Moxon nd Woolley, assisted by some of the villagers. The ingers and choir men had also been busy, having cleaned he tower from top to bottom, arranged the belfry and ew vestry, furbished the lamps, and, as a finishing ouch, hoisted four flags from the corners of the tower. o raise money for the casting of the bell a band of olunteers, among whom the clergy were the latest pro- ationers, set vigorously to work, and by means of col- cting cards obtained a very creditable amount. To eso must be added the generous donations of A. C. ohnson, Esq., and others, by whose help it is hoped at not only may the bell be paid for, but also the xpense be met of renovating the organ. The choir and ngers had tea together in the school-room on the 'ednesday. The festival services were continued on nday. There were two celebrations of the Eucharist, e second, at 11 a.m., being a sung service, at which e preacher was the Rev. H. H. Ramsay. A children's rvice was held at 3 p.m., and choral evensong at 7 m., when the Vicar preached, concluding the series of teresting services.—The ringers have already been nging changes, and are looking forward to some good nging during the winter evenings These bells have a story. Five of them are re-casts of five bells which ing formerly in Peterborough cathedral. General hnson gave an additional bell, which forms the treble the peal. On this bell the following curious inscrip- n appears :—

"'Twas not to foster pride and hatred
William Augustus Johnson gave me,
But truth and grace to celebrate.
These laws do keep and e'er remember:
On May 29th you must not ring,
Nor on the 5th of each November,
Nor on the crowning of a King."

e new bell bears the following chronogram :—

'Ego — renoVata — In — Anno — IUbILaeI — bonae — regInae — VIctorIae — In — tUa — eCCLesIa — gLorIas — regnI — tUI — In — Lacto — ConCentU — sono — sUaVIter — o — reX — UnICe — IesU — et — nUntIo — horas — operUM."

having been renewed in the year of the Jubilee of the d Queen Victoria, O, only Jesu, sound sweetly in this rch the glories of thy reign in joyful peal, and announce hours of work.)

e organ, besides having its defective parts renewed,

eople believed the policy of the Government to be right. Cheers.) If the offenders against law and order pursued he course which they had hitherto adopted in Ireland they ould most probably be put on plank beds, and a very good lace, he thought, for them. (Cheers.) They knew, however, that if they desisted from the present agitation their upplies from America would soon cease, and they did not ee the fun of that. (Laughter.) Certain English members f Parliament, including Mr. Halley Stewart and Mr. Brunner, also appeared to be very bitter, contending that he suppression of the National League meant the suppression of free speech. Conditions in regard to speaking in England and in Ireland were, however, very different, for whereas in England they met to discuss political matters in a calm spirit, those who attended most of the political gatherings in Ireland endeavoured to incite people to a row. The Government had a difficult task to fulfil, but they were determined to do their duty fairly and firmly. (Cheers.)

Mr. G. H. Finch, M.P., who was cheered on rising, seconded the resolution. He said that during his experience in Parliament—which had now extended over nearly twenty years—(cheers)—he had been made familiar with various questions relating to Ireland. When he was first elected in 1867 the Irish Church question was coming to the front, since which they had had legislation on various agrarian topics. They had had Land Bill after Land Bill under Mr. Gladstone's guidance, but each one had only made the Irish more discontented than they were before, and every one of those Land Bills had been followed by Coercion Bills of greater force than the recent Crimes Bill of the Government. Therefore, he was not surprised that the Irish question was again before the public, but what did astonish him was this—that the great leader of the Liberal party, Mr. Gladstone, who only four or five years ago imprisoned Mr. Parnell and 1200 other Irishmen because they were "steeped up to their lips in treason," because they were "preaching the gospel of public plunder," and because they were "marching through rapine to the dismemberment of the empire," should now be lying in the same bed as these public plunderers, and should himself be leading the army which was "marching through rapine to the dismemberment of the empire." When Sir William Harcourt changed his coat nobody was very much surprised, for he was regarded as the political harlequin of the present day—(laughter)—and no one was astonished that he himself was "stewing in Parnellite juice." But when a man like Mr. Gladstone, who two years ago had a character to lose—he had no character to lose now—(laughter)—undid every pledge he made three or four years ago simply that he might prove himself to be "an old Parliamentary hand," that he might promote his personal ambition, and that he might dismember the British empire, a resolution such as the one he was seconding was absolutely necessary, so that Mr. Gladstone might be shown that the people of this country were determined to have nothing more to do with him. (Cheers.)

Mr. Lawrance, Q.C., M.P., who was received with continued cheers on rising to support the motion, said they were all interested in the question of preventing Mr. Gladstone from ever again becoming Prime Minister of England, and that was the object the Liberal Unionists had in joining the Conservative party. (Cheers, and a Voice: "We won't have him.") He did not think they would, and further he thought Mr. Gladstone [illegible]

and laughter.) It might be only a question of [illegible] might be years—and the Irish people had sometimes had to wait for half centuries—but sooner or later the measures of justice which would restore the Irish Parliament to the Irish people would inevitably come. (Applause.) Mr. Coldstream resumed his seat amidst enthusiastic cheering.—A resolution to the effect that Mr. Coldstream was a fit and proper person to represent the constituency in Parliament was carried with acclamation.

HARVEST FESTIVALS.

Alford.—Harvest thanksgiving services of a very successful and really high character were held on Sunday and Monday by the Primitive Methodists. Mr. M. Brown, of Hull, preached earnest and powerful sermons, and the chapel was at night crowded to excess. On Monday evening a public meeting took place. All the members and friends seem to make an effort on these occasions to give what they can of their garden produce. The chapel was beautifully decorated, and inside the communion-rails there was a fine pile of fruits, vegetables, corn, and provisions. The sale by auction of these gifts realized about £7.

Barton-on-Humber.—The annual service of thanksgiving for the harvest was held in St. Peter's church, Barton, on Friday evening. The sermon was preached by the Rev. J. F. Overton, Rector of Epworth. The Vicar and the Revs. J. Wylie, of Horkstow, and W. Gifford also took part in the service. The church was tastefully decorated with flowering plants and ferns, cereals, evergreens, and cut flowers, an

He was Patron, by the Statutes, of the Grammar Schools of Uppingham and Oakham, as heir of the Founder—Archdeacon Johnson. He was High Sheriff of Lincolnshire in 1830; for thirty-two years was Chairman of the Kesteven Quarter Sessions; was M.P. for Boston from 1820 to 1826, and for Oldham from 1837 to 1847, holding (as may be gathered from the singular inscription on the bell he gave) strong opinions during a time of much political excitement. It may, however, be mentioned, as showing a modification of his opinions, that General Johnson requested the bells to be rung upon the occasion of the marriage of the Prince of Wales in 1863. He married (17th February, 1835) Lucy, the eldest daughter of the Rev. Kingsman Foster, Rector of Dowsby, Lincolnshire; died on the 26th of October, 1863, aged 86 years, and was buried at Witham, where is, in the church, a window erected to his memory by public subscription.

The present tower was built in 1737. "In connection with the old tower a story is told to the effect that one Christmas Eve the ringers, for the purpose of partaking of refreshment, left the bells 'standing' and adjourned to a tavern that then stood opposite. One of their number, a little more thirsty than the rest, insisted that before going back to ring they should have another pitcher of ale; and this being at length agreed to by his companions, the party remained to duly drain [illegible]ght. This extra mug of beer saved their lives, for while they were drinking the steeple fell. Whether this is merely a tapster's tale, or the sober statement of a remarkable incident, we are not in a position to affirm."*

WITHCALL.

S. Martin. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.

(Diam. 10½ in.)

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* A cutting from "*The Stamford Mercury.*"

WITHERN.

S. Margaret. 1 Bell.

1. 1811.

(Diam. 21 in.)

In 1566 the churchwardens reported that they had no "handbells . . . sence King Edwardes tyme."*

The church was rebuilt in 1811, when the present single bell was put up. The ancient church had a tower in which were three bells, which it is said were sold to pay for new seats in the new church: one—the largest—according to local tradition, went to Lincoln. In an old clerk's book is the following entry relating to this church and its bells:—

Nov. 22, 1829. I John Scargeal Parish Clerk: I buryed the old one: I helped to take down the old church; it had three bells.

WOLD NEWTON.

All Saints. 1 Bell.

1. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1611.

(Diam. 24 in.)

In 1553 the church here contained "iij gret belles & one santus belles."†

When the church was rebuilt in 1862 there was only one bell—the present one as above—which was preserved.

WOODHALL.

S. Margaret. 2 Bells.

1, 2. Blank.

(Diams. 17¼, 18¼ in.)

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* Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 168. † *Augm. Office Misc.* 507, P. R. Off.

In 1553 there were "ij great bells."*

The present bells are poor in tone and apparently modern: the framework rotten.

WOOLSTHORPE.

S. JAMES. 2 BELLS.

1. 1820.
(Diam. 19 in.)
2. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1820.
(Diam. 21 in.)

In 1566 the churchwardens of "Wollestrop" reported that they had no "sacring belles" in Queen Mary's time, and that one handbell had been "stolen forthe of ōr churche ōr churche beinge Robbed."†

WOOTTON.

S. ANDREW. 3 BELLS.

1. JAMES HARRISON OF BARROW FOUNDER 1789 REV. MR UPPELBY VICAR FRANCIS DAY Church Warden
(Diam. 27 in.)
2. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1604.
RB RD
(Diam. 27 in.)
3. LIVE AND DIE IN THE FAITH OF CHRIST.
RI [□ 8]
WILL^M JACKSON VICAR JOHN MARRASS C. WARDEN 1764.
(Diam. 31 in.)

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* *Land Revenue Records*, Bundle 1392, File 79, P. R. Off. † Peacock's *Ch. Fur.* p. 169.

On the bell-frame is:—

C IK RM
1616.

The Rev. William Uppelby (see 1st bell) signs the Register for the last time in April, 1799: he appears to have died Vicar of Barton-on-Humber in the year 1834. The Rev. William Jackson (see 3rd bell) died here, and was buried 20th September, 1783.

WORLABYE.

S. Clement. 3 Bells.

1. THO. HALL CH WARDEN 1754 G DALTON YORK
2. [+ 165] GDO WITH VS RF EM WS 1663.
3. JOHN SMITH VICAR 1754 G DALTON YORK

For Stamp see *Plate XXIV.*

WORLABY [near Louth].

There is one small bell at this modern chapel.

WRAGBY.

All Saints. 6 Bells.

1. TEMPORE W STEPHENSON ET F WELLS 1697.
(Diam. 26 in.)
2. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1697.
(Diam. 27 in.)
3. [+ 111] [□ 113] IESVS BE OVRE SPEDE
(Diam. 28 in.)

4. [+ 116] KATERINE [▽ 119.]
(Diam. 31 in.)
5. [+ 116] Huius Sci Martini Epi [▽ 119.]
(Diam. 36 in.)
6. ALL GLORY BEE TO GOD ON HIGH 1697.
(Diam. 38 in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XVI.*, page 107, and *Plate XVIII.*

The 3rd, 4th, and 5th bells are said to have been brought from Kirmond Church, by Sir Edmund Turnor, in 1697; at which time the other three bells were cast by the Nottingham founders. These all hung in the ancient church here until the year 1838, when they were removed about a quarter of a mile to the present new church. The chancel of the old church still stands, and is used as a chapel to the burial ground.

WRANGLE.

SS. Peter and Paul [or S. Nicolas]. 6 Bells.

1. RICH^{D} : BAILY : VIC^{R} : & : J^{NO} : DICKINSON : SIDESMAN : GAVE : EACH : 5^{L} : TO : ME : 1714.
2. ALL SIX WERE MADE AT PETERBOROW 1714.
3. BY HENRY PENN FOVNDER 1714.
4. FRANCIS : GOODERICK : & JOHN : DICKINSON : CHVRCHWARDENS : 1714.
5. RECAST AT BARTON 1822. J HARRISON FOUNDER. RICHARD WRIGHT VICAR, JOHN SLATOR CHURCHWARDEN.
6. I : PRIEST : AND : PEOPLE : TO : SERVE : THE : GOD : OF : HEVVN : AND : EARTH : CALL : THE : DEAD : I : MOVRN : THE : LIVING : WARN : & : PEALS : DETERMINE : ALL :
(Diam. 38 in.)

The Rev. Richard Bailye (see 1st bell) was inducted in the year 1708.

The Rev. Richard Wright (see 5th bell), who was presented to the Vicarage of Wrangle in 1784, died 24th April, 1826, aged 66 years.

The bells were rehung in frames of partly cast iron and partly wood in 1822. The tower is too small for six bells.

WRAWBY.

S. Mary. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 147] ODER gB VER
1581 [▽ 148.]
(Diam. 33½ in.)

2. [+ 15 O + 17] Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum.
(Diam. 35½ in.)

3. [+ 162] Deus nobis cum SO TS WS 1663.
(Diam. 38½ in.)

For Stamps see page 120 and *Plates II.* and *XXIV.*, and for a specimen of the capital letters on the 2nd bell see fig. 189, *Plate XXVII.*

WROOT.

S. Pancras. 1 Bell.

1. Blank.
(Diam. 18 in.)

In 1553 "Wrotte" possessed "ij great belles."*

In 1556 the churchwardens reported that "one handbell," which belonged to the church in Queen Mary's time, still remained there.

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* *Exch. Q. R. Church Goods, Linc.* $\frac{3}{53}$, P. R. Off.

WYBERTON.

S. Leodegar. 3 Bells.

1. [+ 106] GOD SAVE THE CHVRCH OVR QVEEИE AИD REALME AMEИ 1600 [□ 113.]
(Diam. 33½ in.)
2. GLORIA SOLI DEO 1633.
(Diam. 37 in.)
3. THOMAS YARBVRROE ИICHOLAS GRAVES [+ 2] THOMAS NORRIS MADE MEE 1661.
(Diam. 40½ in.)

For Stamps see *Plate XV.* and page 52.

WYHAM.

All Saints. 1 Bell.

1. 1712 [O 7.]
(Diam. 19 in.)

For Stamp see page 59.
Here are niches for two bells in west gable.

WYKEHAM CHAPEL.

There was formerly a single bell in this ruined chapel. Tradition affirms that it was carried away under a waggon into Norfolk, about the year 1820, by a farmer who had been occupying the neighbouring farm-house.

WYVILL.

S. Catherine. 1 Bell.

1. ROBERT TAYLOR FECIT 1854 LOBRO'.
(Diam. 14 in.)

YARBURGH.

S. JOHN. 3 BELLS.

1. THO. DUNHAM CH. WARDEN JAMES HARRISON FOUNDER 1831.

(Diam. 32 in.; no canons.)

2. [▽ 119 + 120] Nos Cū Prole Pia Bēdicat Virgo Maria.

(Diam. 36 in.; canons cut off.)

3. Celorum xte placeat tibi rex sonus iste.

[▽ 127.]

(Diam. 40 in.; canons cut off.)

For Stamps see *Plate XVIII.* and page 114.

The beams carrying the bells rest on the window sills of the tower with the floor of the bell-chamber about twenty feet below; the bells are rung from the floor of the church.

Prior to 1831 there were four bells. There is a tradition that the ancient tenor was sold to Grainthorpe parish, and that the next went to pay the cost of the new treble bell then introduced; at any rate two old bells disappeared, and only one new one came.

CORRIGENDA.

Page 75, second line, omit *annexed.*

Page 79, thirteenth line, omit *opposite.*

Page 158, third line from bottom, for *Willoughby-by-Stow*, read Willingham-by-Stow.

Page 179, second line, for *Walton-le-Wold*, read Welton-le-Wold.

Page 246, fifth line from bottom, for *Walton* read Welton.

Page 339. Alterations have been made in the ring of bells at Brant Broughton since the description printed on page 339 passed through the press.

The treble, as there described, has been taken away; the old 3rd and 4th bells, not being in tune, have been recast; and a new tenor has been added: so now the bells are thus:—

1. [The 2nd as given on page 339.]
2. Sancta Helena. John Taylor & Co. Founders MDCCCLXXXI.
3. John Taylor & Co. Founders MDCCCLXXXI.
4. [The 5th as given on page 340.]
5. [The 6th as given on page 340.]
6. Nomen Habeo Gabrielis MDCCCLXXXI. Defunctos ploro festa decoro.

(Weight 23 cwt. 2 qrs. 6 lbs.)

Prior to 1792 there were only three large bells here. The recent alterations have made this ring—which has been provided with a new frame—the finest and heaviest in the neighbourhood.

Page 447. The Rector of West Keal reports to me, on the 4th of January, 1882, that the five bells are, most fortunately, uninjured by their fall, as recorded on page 447.

GOD'S

APPOINTMENT

IS MY

CONTENTMENT.

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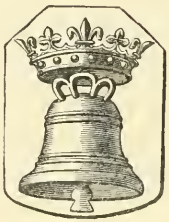

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